COPIES
OF THE
INFORMATIONS
AND
Original PAPERS
Relating to the Proof of
The Horrid Conſpiracy
Againſt the Late
KING;
His Preſent MAJESTY,
AND THE
GOVERNMENT:
As it was Order'd to be Publiſhed by His Late Majeſty.

In the SAVOY:
Printed by THOMAS NEWCOMB, One of His MAJESTIES Printers. 1685.

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THE INFORMATION OF Joſiah Keeling,

OF THE

PARISH of St. *Butolph* without *Aldgate*,

IN THE

County of Middleſex, Salter,

Taken the 12th. of *June* 1683.

THis Informant depoſeth and ſaith, That ſome time before that His Majeſty went laſt to *Newmarket*, about a Fortnight or Three Weeks as he remembers, Mr. *Richard Goodenough* (Under-Sheriff to Mr. *Bethel* and Mr. *Corniſh*, late Sheriffs of *London*) did at the *Sun-Tavern*, behind the *Royal Exchange*, take this Informant aſide, and ask him how many Men, he, this Informant, could procure to take away the Life of the King, and Duke of *York*: He having begun his Diſcourſe with this Informant, by telling him that we (meaning thereby himſelf, this Informant, and other Citizens of *London*) were like to be in Slavery, and to loſe Our Charter: To which Queſtion this Informant anſwered, to the beſt of his Remembrance, That he could not procure any to do that Work. This Informant further ſaith, That meeting the ſaid *Goodenough* a ſecond time, while His Majeſty was yet at *Newmarket*, he told this Informant, That the only way to prevent Shedding of Blood, was to take off the King and Duke privately, and renewed

his Former Requeſt to me (this Informant) to procure what Men I could, towards the Effecting of it; and upon this Occaſion he met me often in *London*, and came down to my Houſe. This Informant further ſaith, That he at the Solicitation of the ſaid *Goodenough*, and others, did ſpeak to divers Perſons, that Mr. *Goodenough* had told this Informant, there were ſeveral Men, that would be Concerned in taking off the King and the Duke, and they wanted More to make up their Complement, which were to be Forty in Number. Among the Perſons, that this Informant ſpoke to, there were Three, *viz. James Burton*, of *Wapping White Chappel*, Cheeſe-monger; *William Thompſon*, Carver, of the ſame; and *Andrew Barber*, Inſtrument-maker, of the ſame: That Meeting by Appointment, at the *Mytre-Tavern* within *Aldgate*, with one *Richard Rumball* a Malſter-man, living at a Place called, *The Rye* (if this Informant miſtake not the Name) within two Miles of *Hoddeſdon*, in the County of *Hertford*, or thereabouts, did agree on the *Saturday* next before His Majeſty's Return from *Newmarket* laſt, to go down to the *Rye*, being the Houſe of the aforeſaid *Rumball*, and there to Effect their Deſign of taking off the King and the Duke. The Manner whereby they Propoſed this ſhould be Effected, That the ſaid *Rumball*'s Houſe, where they were to Meet, being by the High-ways ſide, they that were to be Actors in the Fact, were to hide themſelves under a Wall, or a Pale; and when His Majeſty's Coach ſhould come over-againſt the ſaid Wall or Pale, Three or Four were to Shoot with Blunderbuſſes at the Poſtilion and the Horſes; and if the Horſes ſhould not Drop, then there were to be Two Men with an Empty Cart in the Lane near the Place, who in the Habit of Labourers ſhould run the Cart thwart the Lane, and ſo to ſtop the Horſes; beſides thoſe that were to Shoot the Poſtilion and Horſes, there were ſeveral appointed to Shoot into the Coach where His Majeſty was to be, and others to Shoot at the Guards that ſhould be attending the Coach. This Informant further ſaith, That meeting with Mr. *Robert Weſt*, of the *Middle Temple*, Barriſter, they went to the *Dolphin Tavern* in *Bartholomew* Lane, behind the *Royal Exchange*, where they met the ſaid *Rumball*, and one *Hone* of *Southwark*, (as this Informant believes he was either a Carpenter or a Joyner) and they Diſcourſing together, when His Majeſty would come Home from *Newmarket*, Mr. *Rumball* ſaid, He heard that he would come that night: Mr. *Weſt* ſaid he had heard that His Majeſty would not come till *Munday*; and, ſaid he, I hope he will not come till *Saturday*, that is the *Saturday* come Sennight. To which *Rumball* replyed, I hope ſo too. If he do not, ſaid Mr. *Weſt* to *Rumball*, why then how many Swan-Quills? how many Gooſe-Quills? and how many pair of Crow-Quills, will or muſt you have? Whereto *Rumball* anſwered, Six Swan-Quills, twenty Gooſe-Quills, twenty or thirty (the Informant doth not exactly remember which) pair of Crow-Quills, with Ink and Sand proportionable. This Informant asking, either the ſaid *Weſt*, or elſe the ſaid *Rumball*, what was meant by thoſe ſeveral ſorts of Quills; Was anſwered, That by the firſt were meant, Blunderbuſſes; by the ſecond, Muskets; by the third, Caſes of Piſtols; by the Ink and Sand, Powder and Bullet. This Informant ſeeing *Rumball* the ſame Week that His Majeſty returned Home, told him he had ſeen the King paſſing by his Houſe, and that if he had but Five Men with him, he could have done his Buſineſs, and the Dukes, for that there were but Five Life-Guard-men with them.

This

This Informant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Goodenough* about a Fortnight ago, came to this Informants Houſe, and going from thence to the Coffee-Houſe, he told him, after he had pulled out ſome Papers, that he this Informant muſt take one of the ſaid Papers; who asking the ſaid *Goodenough*, what he muſt do with it; he the ſaid *Goodenough* anſwered, that he muſt take to his aſſiſtance nine or ten Men, ſuch as he could truſt, to the end they might conſult all the Houſe-Keepers, Journey-men and Apprentices, to ſee what number of Men might be raiſed upon occaſion, either to juſtifie the Act, if the King and Duke ſhould be taken off, or if not, what ſtrength could be made up in Caſe of an Inſurrection or a Rebellion: And he being told by this Informant, that we were well, indeed better than any other Nation, (that is) much happier if we could be quiet, otherwiſe we ſhould involve the Nation in Blood and Confuſion; He replyed, That he was clearly for taking off the King and the Duke, and then there ſhould be quickly an end to it: And this Informant further ſaith, That the two Papers now produced by him, were delivered to him by the ſaid *Goodenough*, and that the Paper beginning with theſe words, *viz.* 4. *From White-Chappel Southeaſt*, and ending *Round Goodmans Fields*, was Written with *Goodenoughs* own hand, as this Informant believes. And this Informant ſaith, That he had received a third Paper from the ſaid *Goodenough*, which he gave into the hands of one *Joſeph Helby* a Carver of *Limehouſe*, who put it into his Pocket, but ſaid he would not meddle in it. This Informant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Goodenough* told him he had divided the City and Suburbs into Twenty Parts, and ſhewed this Informant the Names of the Diviſions in Writing, having, as he ſaid, taken it out of the Map. In the Company of the ſaid *Goodenough* and this Informant was one *William Rumball*, the Brother of the ſaid *Richard Rumball*, to whom a Paper was offered, but he would not meddle. In each Diviſion there was to be one Principal Man, to take to his aſſiſtance eight or nine more as he thought convenient; but he Named none of them to this Informant. This Informant further ſaith, That on *Thurſday* laſt he going into the *Salutation-Tavern* in *Lumbard Street*, was told there were above Stairs ſome Acquaintance of his; he going up, found the ſaid *Goodenough* there, together with one *Wade*, *Nelthrop*, and the aforeſaid *Weſt*, all Barriſters at Law; they called this Deponent in Jeſt by the Name of *Gulick*; and he asking them, what they meant by it, they told him, *Gulick* was a brave Fellow and headed the People at *Cologne*, and they hoped to ſee this Informant do the ſame at *Wapping*; and they asked how their Friends did in *Wapping* and what Strength they could make there: The Informant anſwered, They would do well enough there, and concluded they were privy to the Deſign. In this Company was one they called Captain *Walcot*, who went over with the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and came back with his Corps; as alſo one they called Colonel, whoſe Name this Informant does not know. This Informant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Richard Rumball* in the Converſation above mentioned with the ſaid *Burton*, *Thompſon*, and *Barber* and this Deponent, affirmed, That to take off the King and the Duke would be a Keeping of one of the *Ten Commandments*, ſince it would prevent a Rebellion, whereby abundance of Blood muſt be ſhed. This Informant further ſaith, That he asking *Weſt* and *Goodenough* on the *Thurſday* above mentioned, what

what Care was taken for Arms, he was anſwered, That he need not take Care of that, for there was Proviſion already made; and that the ſaid *Weſt* recommended Secrecy above all things to this Deponent, otherwiſe the preſent Deſign miſcarrying, they ſhould never be able to Retrieve it. *Weſt* further told this Deponent on *Eaſter Eve*, That ſince the Deſign to be executed upon the King's Return from *Newmarket* had Failed, they intended to take the King and Duke off between *Windſor* and *Hampton Court*.

Joſiah Keeling.

12 *Die Junii* 1683
Joſiah Keeling,
Juratus fuit Coram me,
L. Jenkins.

The Joint Information of Joſiah Keeling, *of the Pariſh of St.* Butolph *without* Aldgate, *in the County of* Middleſex, *Salter, and of* John Keeling *of the Pariſh of* St. Anne Black-Fryers, *Citizen and* Turner, *taken the* 14*th of June*, 1683.

THeſe Informants being in Company with *Richard Goodenough*, this 14th day of *June*, between the hours of Twelve and One, at the *Dolphin-Tavern* behind the Exchange; and the ſaid *Joſiah Keeling* asking him what Account he had of thoſe Twenty Diviſions that he had made of the City, or to that effect; He Anſwered, That he had an Account of *Lee* a Dyer in *Old-Street*, *Middleſex*, and that he could raiſe him 500 Men: And the ſaid *Goodenough* being asked by the ſaid Informants where thoſe Men ſhould have Arms and Ammunition, and alſo where other men that were deſigned to be Raiſed ſhould have the like: It was Replyed by the ſaid *Goodenough*, That there were Twenty Thouſand Pounds already promiſed, which ſhould be had upon Demand, and that the ſaid Money was to be diſtributed to the Twenty Principal Undertakers, proportionably to the Liſts of Men they brought in; or the ſaid *Goodenough* Replied to that Effect: The ſaid *Goodenough* further adding, That the Duke of *Monmouth*, and all his Friends would be concerned in raiſing the ſaid Money; And that the ſaid Duke would be at the Head of the ſaid Party, which they propounded to be Four Thouſand in Number, and that many more would quickly fall in. And the ſaid *Goodenough* further ſaid, that a certain Colonel (whom the Informant takes to be Colonel *Romſey*) would advance Eight Hundred or a Thouſand Pounds towards Paying for Arms. And

the

the ſaid *Goodenough* further ſaid, that *Wade* the Counſellor of *Briſtol* or thereabouts, kept in Town two or three hundred pounds, towards paying for Arms. And the the ſad *Goodenough* being asked what he would Contribute towards the carrying on of the ſaid Deſign, (he being a Rich Man) he anſwered that he had about threeſcore pounds in Plate and fifty or threeſcore pounds in Gold, and had he more it ſhould all go to the ſame uſe; And the ſaid *Joſiah* asking him what Proviſion of Horſe there was, the ſaid *Goodenough* anſwered that there were a hundred ready, and Men to Mount them, and if occaſion be, there ſhould be more in readineſs; and the ſaid Informants further ſay, that the ſaid *Joſiah*, being asked by the ſaid *Goodenough*, what Progreſs he had made upon thoſe Papers he had entruſted with him, and *Joſiah* ſhewing him the Paper of Number three (which *Goodenough* owned to have been delivered by him to the ſaid *Joſiah*, with two Papers more) and telling him all was well enough with us, but asking him withal, what we ſhould do for Arms and Ammunition, he the ſaid *Goodenough* anſwered, that if there was Faith in Men, Mony ſhould not be wanting to buy Arms and Ammunition; and that he was to meet this night them that were principally concerned. And theſe Informants ſay that the ſaid *Joſiah* (being deſirous to pry into the ſecrets of their deſign againſt the *Tower*) propounded to the ſaid *Goodenough*, that a Perſon with the Staff of a Conſtable ſhould bring in a Man bound as an offender before the Lieutenant, or Major *Roe*; and that at the ſame time, another Perſon ſhould be brought in upon the ſame Coulour, and by that means ſecure the Guard at the Gate, till ſuch time that a Body of Men which was to be lodged in the Corner-houſe of *Thames-ſtreet* or the next to it, ſhould come to their help; For which propoſal the ſaid *Goodenough* applauded the ſaid *Joſiah* very much, clapping him upon the back. And the Informant *Joſiah* asking what to ſatisfie our People we ſhould do for a few Arms, he anſwered, that the ſaid *Joſiah* ſhould have Mony to buy them. *Joſiah* then askt him what Gun-ſmith he would recommend him to, adding whether he had not beſt deal with Mr. *Weſt's* (meaning Mr. *Weſt* the Lawyer's Gun-ſmith)? Whereto the ſaid *Goodenough* anſwered, that Gun-ſmith was a very honeſt Fellow, and that he need not diſtruſt him: The ſaid *Joſiah* further askt him, ſaying you muſt have ſome Arms; Are thoſe diſpoſed that were to be ſent to *Rye*? Whereto *Goodenough* anſwered, they were not. Then the ſaid *Joſiah* askt him if they were at *Weſts* Houſe, or at the Gun-ſmiths; Whereto *Goodenough* anſwered, they were at the Gun-ſmiths, who lived in *Sheer-lane*, on the left hand, as one goes from *Fleet-ſtreet*: And the ſaid *Joſiah* asking the ſaid *Goodenough* whither they went on with their Deſign of Killing the King and the Duke between *Windſor* and *Hampton-Court*; he the ſaid *Goodenough* replyed No, becauſe they did not uſually go together, but they would do it at the Bull Feaſt, in *Lyon*-feilds. And theſe Informants further ſay Not.

14 *Die Junii* 1683.
Jurati Prædicti Johan. *Joſiah Keeling.*
& Joſiah Coram me, *John Keeling.*

L. Jenkins.

The Joint Information of Josiah Keeling, *of the Parish of St.* Butolph *without* Aldgate, *in the County of* Middlesex, *Salter, and of* John Keeling *of the Parish of* St. Anne Black-Fryers, *Citizen and* Turner, *June the* 15*th*, 1683.

THE Informants say, that being in the Company of *Richard Goodenough* at the Sun-Tavern behind the *Royal-Exchange*, between the hours of One and Three of the Clock on the 15*th*. day of this instant *June*, 1683. They asked the said *Goodenough* what Persons of Quality would be concerned: He the said *Goodenough* replyed, that he had discoursed *William* Lord *Russel*, Son to the Earl of *Bedford*; and that the said Lord *Russel* told the aforesaid *Goodenough*, that he would be concerned in it, to his utmost, and that he would use all his intrest to accomplish the aforesaid design of killing the King, and the Duke of *York*: And these Informants further say, that asking the said *Goodenough*, what Collonel that was, that yesterday he the said *Goodenough* told the Informants, *Josiah* and *John*, would advance eight hundred or a thousand pound towards carrying on the design of Killing the King and Duke, he the said *Goodenough* Replyed, it was Collonel *Romsey*; and the Informant *Josiah* ask'd the said *Goodenough* whether it was that *Romsey* that Married the Lady *Smith*, and had Commanded Forces in *Portugal* for his Majesty, (*i. e.*) the King of *England*, he Replied it was.

Witness Our hands this 15th. *day of* June 1683.

Josiah Keeling.
John Keeling.

The Information of Josiah Keeling, *given upon Oath at* Hampton-Court, *the* 23*d. of* June, 1683.

AND this Informant further saith, that several Gentlemen, *viz.* Mr. *Roope*, Mr. *Fitton Gerrald* and Mr. *Allen* and one other, whose Name this Informant hath forgot, who as they said came to visit their honest *Wapping* Men, that this Informant would recommend to them for such, and also to Dine with

with them at ſome Tavern, which was the *Fortune* at *Wapping*, where was Mr. *Samuel Gibbs*, Mr. *Edmund Hunt*, Mr. *Robert Ferguſon*, with ſeveral other Perſons that this Informant doth not remember, where the aforeſaid Gentlemen began to drink Healths, ſome of which were as followeth; To the Man that firſt draws his Sword in defence of the Proteſtant Religion, againſt Popery and Slavery; Another was To the Confuſion of the Two B others, Slavery and Popery; and being askt what they meant (as this Informant verily believeth) it was Replyed, the Two Brothers at *Whitehal*; The next was To the pinning of *Mackinnys* Head on the Monument for burning the City in 66. And this Informant asking what was meant, they ſaid it was the Duke of *York*. And this Informant Dining at the *Horſe-ſhoe* Tavern on *Tavar-hill*, with *Edward Norton*, Eſq; Mr. *Starkey*, Mr. *Ogle*, Mr. *Goodenough*, and others, forgot by this Informant, they drank the foreſaid Healths, and did explain them as the aforeſaid Company did. And this Informant further ſaith, that *Fran. Goodenough* ſent a Letter to this Informant by one *Cherry*, to acquaint the ſaid Informant, that the ſaid *Goodenough*, would with ſome other Gentlemen Dine at the End of the Town, where this Informant dwelleth, and that this Informant would ſpeak to ſuch Men as he could truſt, to meet the aforeſaid perſons at the *Siracuſa* Houſe; There came with the aforeſaid *Goodenough* one *John Row*, late Sword-Bearer at *Briſtol*, with a *Dorſet-ſhire* Gentleman, whoſe name this Informant hath forgot; alſo at the ſame Meeting was Mr. *Edmund Hunt*, *Andrew Barber*, *William Fomſon*, *James Burton*, as this Informant verily believes, with ſeveral others forgot, where it was agreed, we ſhould diſcourſe ſo that it might not be underſtood if we were over-heard. Then the queſtion was, if the Foot-ball was laid down, how many we might reaſonably expect would come in at firſt Laying of it down from Our end of the Town to play at it? To which it was replyed, it was uncertain, but as many as were there would be concerned; to which it was anſwered by *Row*, and *Goodenough*, if we would not in a little time kick the Ball effectually, we ſhould be made Slaves, for ſaith *Row*, the Lord Mayor hath impoſed Sheriffs upon you, and the King will take away your Charter, and then you'l be in a fine Condition, and *Goodenough* ſpake to the ſame purpoſe; upon which *Hunt* replyed, that he could do as much good as any body, for that Foot-bal Players often got broken ſhins, and he the ſaid *Hunt* could Cure them. And this Informant further ſaith, that this diſcourſe was grounded, upon this Foundation, What Men can be raiſed againſt the Church-Warden at *Whitehal*, which was underſtood the King. And this Informant further ſaith, that *Richard Goodenough*, and *Richard Rumbal*, told this Informant, that there was a Remonſtrance or Declaration ready drawn up, which would be Printed againſt the day that this deſigned Commotion was to be, wherein they would eaſe the People of Chimney Mony, which ſeemed to be moſt Grievous, eſpecially to the Common People, and that they would lay the Kings Death upon the Papiſts as a continued deſign of the former Plot.

Joſiah Keeling.

Copy

Copy of a Note given in by *Joſiah Keeling* 23*d.* of *June*, and by him received from *Goodenough.*

From the Tower *Eaſtward on the South-ſide of* Roſemary-Lane *to* Maiden-head-lane, *the Weſt-ſide of* Maiden-head-lane, *the North-ſide of Upper* Shadwel, *Weſtward to new* Gravel-lane, *the Weſt-ſide of new* Gravel-lane, *to the* Thames *and by the* Thames *to the* Tower.

The Streets and Allies of Note within the bounds.

St. Katherine's.
Eaſt-Smithfeild.
Ratclift-High-way.
Victualling-Office.
Butcher-Row.
Redcroſs-Street.
Armitage.
Nightingal-lane.
Artichoak-lane.
Redmead-lane.
Wapping.
Gun-ally.
Croſs-ally.
Well-ally.
Warners Yard.
Salters-ally.
Green Bank.
Gun-ally.
Pump-ally.
Love-lane.
Back-ally.
Meeting-horſe-ally.
Old-Gravel-lane.
Brewer's-lane.
Tobacco-pipe-ally.
Cinamon-Street.
Crown-Street.
Queen-Street.
King Edwards *Street.*
King-Street.
Carman-Rents.
Crown Yard.
Harrow-ally.
Seven Star-ally.
Garter Yard.
Weſts Garden.
Blew-gate field.
Fleece Yard.
Chamberlain's-ally.
Frankland-Street.
Match Walk.

With all other Places within the outbounds not named.

The Information of Thomas Shepard, *taken by the Right Honourable the Earl of* Sunderland, *&c.* June *the* 27*th.* 1683.

SOme time before my Lord *Shaftsbury* went for *Holland*, the Duke of *Monmouth*, Lord *Gray*, Lord *Ruſſel*, Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, Col. *Romſey*, and Mr. *Ferguſon*, met at my Houſe in *Abchurch-lane*, where the ſubject of their Diſcourſe was how to ſeize your Majeſties Guards, and in Order thereunto, as I afterwards at their next meeting was Informed, the Duke, Lord *Gray*, and Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, walked about that end of the Town, one night, and gave an account that they found them very remiſs in their places, not like Souldiers, and that the thing, provided they could have a ſufficient ſtrength, was feaſibly enough; but finding that failed, the Project was wholly laid aſide, ſo far as I know: After that Mr. *Ferguſon* told me of a Project was on foot, for Deſtroying your Majeſty, and his Royal Highneſs, coming from *Newmarket*. Colonel *Romſey*, Mr. *Weſt*, and as I remember, Mr. *Wade* came to my Counting-Houſe one Evening, and began to diſcourſe of it; upon which I told them, that ſuppoſing they ſhould effect what they talked off, it could not be expected that if the Duke of *Monmouth* ſhould be Crowned, but in Honour and for his own Vindication, he muſt ſearch out the Aſſaſſins, and both Try and Execute them; So that inſtead of expecting a Reward, they muſt loſe their Lives; upon which they ceaſed their Diſcourſe, and went away ſoon after. Some time after this, Mr. *Ferguſon* told me of a General Inſurrection intended both in *England* and *Scotland*, and in order to it, that Sir *John Cockran*, Mr. *Bayly*, Mr. *Monro*, Sir *Hugh* and Sir *George Cambell*, were come up to Treat with ſome of our Engliſh Men about it; and that the Lord of *Argile* had made a Propoſition, That if they would Raiſe him Thirty Thouſand pounds he would begin it in *Scotland*; but finding no hopes of Raiſing that Summ, the Scotch were Willing to accept of Ten Thouſand pounds: And by means of a Letter, which came as I was Informed (for there was no Name ſubſcribed) from one Mr. *Stewart*, to ſome unknown Man, which I have forgot; Concluding then that it was intended to Mr. *Bayly*, or ſome other of thoſe Gentlemen, having had ſome ſmall acquaintance with Mr. *Stewart*, formerly by means of his Brother, who was then a Merchant in *Burdeaux*, and one of my Correſpondents, I came acquainted with Mr. *Bayly*, who told me from time to time, what ſteps they made in't, how he Converſed with the Duke, Lord *Ruſſel*, Major *W.* and as I remember, Collonel *Sidney*; and that he had divers Promiſes of the Mony, and deſired it might be paid into my Hands; at length he told me that Five Thouſand pounds they had agreed to Raiſe amongſt themſelves, and that they expected the other half ſhould be Raiſed in the City; but finding no Monies could be got in the City, that Project fell likewiſe, and as Mr. *Bayly* told me, all his Country Men were going beyond Sea.

A few days after came out the Diſcovery, and I never ſaw any of them ſince. Mr. *Ferguſon* told me that my Lord *Eſſex* was hearty in this buſineſs, and that *John Trenchard* was a Man to be depended upon in the Weſt: They had likewiſe good hopes of Sir *William Courtney*, and that my Lord *Shaftsbury* had ſent Captain *Walcot* down to him, who returned with a very cool Anſwer that he found them not what he expected, but believed if it came to a Riſing, they would prove right enough I had almoſt forgot to acquaint your Majeſty that both Mr. *Ferguſon* and Mr. *Bayly*, told me; That Mr. *Charleton* had once promiſed to ſee the Ten Thouſand pound paid.

Thomas Shepard.

Jurat Coram Me
June 27. 1683.

SUNDERLAND.

The Information of Joſeph How *of the Pariſh of St.* Giles's *without* Cripple-gate, *in the County aforeſaid,* Diſtiller, *taken upon Oath before Sir* Reginald Foreſter *Baronet, this* 15*th. day of* June 1683. *againſt* Thomas Lea *of* Old-*Street in the Pariſh aforeſaid, in the County aforeſaid,* Dyer, *for ſpeaking of Dangerous and Seditious Words.*

THis Informant Depoſeth and ſayeth, That the ſaid *Thomas Lea*, being at his Houſe in *White-Croſs-Street*, on *Thurſday* laſt, between two and three of the Clock in the Afternoon, being the 14*th.* of this Inſtant *June*: The ſaid *Thomas Lea*, was Diſcourſing with him this Informant about the loſs of the City Charter, and other things; upon which the ſaid *Thomas Lea* fell into a Paſſion, and told this Informant that he was one of the number of Ten Thouſand Men, which were deſigned to be ready at an hours warning, and in Order thereunto, there was Twenty Thouſand pounds in Bank, to carry on the undertaking; and many more did every day ſubſcribe mony or engage their perſonal aſſiſtance: And the firſt enterprize they venture upon, is to go very near *Windſor*, and for to ſeize the *Black-Bird*, and the *Gold-Finch*; and that Three Hundred Men were deſigned for that Enterprize: And afterwards to ſeize the Militia, *Whitehal*, and the *Tower*:

But

But this Informant Anſwered that he Judged it impoſſible, the *Tower* being now ſo very Strong; but the ſaid *Thomas Lea*, told him that he had been round the *Tower* in Company with a Captain of a Ship, and had found out a Place, where a breach might be made, which is to be done by placing ſome Ships on the *Thames* ſide, with Mortar Pieces therein, to diſmount the Guns; and alſo to bring the Major part of thoſe Seamen which were in Arrears of Pay, to perform the Work, they being angry and in want, therefore the fitter for that purpoſe: And that for the better Carrying of the Deſign, ſeveral Meetings are held (as this day for one) at the *Kings Head* Tavern in *Athiſt-Ally* near the *Royal-Exchange*, at Two of the Clock in the Afternoon; Further Informeth Not.

Joſeph How.

Regin. Foreſter.

June

June 25, 1683. *The Examination of Colonel* John Romſey.

THis Examinant ſaith, That in *October* or *November* laſt, there was an Inſurrection intended by the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and that the ſaid Earl of *Shaftsbury* told this Examinant, that *Briſtol* was to be his Poſt, and the Examinant being asked what Perſons of Quality or Capacity to Command as Officers, were named as intended to take part in this Inſurrection; He Anſwered, That he heard my Lord *Ruſſel* named and complained of, and Mr. *John Trenchard* named by the Earl of *Shaftsbury*; and this Examinant further ſaith, that *Row* the Sword-bearer of *Briſtol*, told him, That Mr. *Weſt* had acquainted him the ſaid *Row*, that there was an intention to Aſſaſſinate the King, at His coming from *Newmarket* in *October* laſt: the Examinant doth not remember whither he Duke was there or no, but that if he were, he was likewiſe to have been killed (as the ſaid *Row* told this Examinant,) and this Examinant further ſaith, That about the latter end of *November*, or the beginning of *December* laſt, this Examinant having Matters of Law depending, became acquainted with Mr. *Robert Weſt*, and employed him as his Refereé therein; That the ſaid *Weſt* acquainted this Examinant with the Deſign to Murther the King at His coming from *Newmarket* in *October* laſt; and told this Examinant, That though it miſcarried at that time, it was not to be given over ſo, and therefore deſired that he, this Examinant, Mr. *Richard Goodenough*, and ſome others, which he cannot charge his Memory withall, ſhould meet at his the ſaid *Weſt*'s Chamber, where this Examinant and they did meet within three or four days after, to the beſt of this Examinants Remembrance, and there Diſcourſed about the ſame Deſign, and let it fall at that time; and this Examinant further ſaith, That about the Month of *February* laſt, the aboveſaid Perſons met with this Examinant at the ſaid Mr. *Weſt's* Chamber, to conſider how the Deſign ſhould be brought to effect, at the Kings return from *Newmarket*; and Mr. *Weſt*, and Mr. *Richard Goodenough* undertook to find out Men for that purpoſe. And this Examinant further ſaith, that about this time the ſaid *Weſt* and *Goodenough* did deſire that this Examinant would be acquainted with *Richard Rumball* of the *Rye* near *Hogſden* in *Hertfordſhire*, who was the Man that would undertake to Command the Party that ſhould take off the King and the Duke; and that at their deſire this Examinant did conſent to a Meeting with the ſaid *Rumball*. When *Richard Goodenough* brought this Examinant to meet Mr. *Rumball* at the *Angel* Tavern near the Old *Exchange*, the ſaid *Rumball* acquainted this Examinant how the Ground lay, and would have had him gone down to ſee it; but this Examinant refuſed it. And this Examinant further ſaith, That after that they had ſeveral Meetings, to try if they could make up the Number of Forty or Fifty Men for that purpoſe, under which Number the ſaid *Rumball* would not undertake it. And this Examinant further ſaith, That at their next Meeting two or three days before or after the Kings coming from *Newmarket*

New-Market in *March* laſt, They did reſolve that Arms ſhould be bought againſt the next Journey to *New-Market* in *Autumn* or any other opportunity, as at the Play-Houſe or coming from *Windſor* to *Hampton-Court*, or otherwiſe; And that Mr. *Weſt* did undertake to provide ſo many Caſes of Piſtols, ſo many Carabins and ſo many Blunderbuſſes and this Examinant thinks Ten Muſquets: And that it was reſolved, that there ſhould be Arms provided for Fifty Men at leaſt: And this Examinant further ſaith, that the Men were to be divided, Some to Shoot the Poſtillion and Horſes, Some to Fire upon the King and Duke into the Coach and the remainder to Charge the Guards; And that there was alſo a Cart to be laid in the way, by which means the Coach ſhould be hindered from going on: That the ſaid *Rumbal* ſaid at their next meeting, after the Kings Paſſing by his Houſe, that there were but four of the Guards Attending the Coach, and that if he had had but a ſmall number of Men with him, he could have taken off the King and the Duke with Eaſe: And this Examinant further ſaith, that at this laſt Meeting Captain *Walcot* was there preſent. And this Examinant further ſaith, that he did not meet again in five or ſix Weeks after with the ſaid Company tho' often preſs't by Mr. *Weſt* that it was not fit to give it over. And this Examinant further ſaith, that this Examinant, the ſaid *Goodenough Weſt*, *Walcot*, *Norton*, *Wade* and *Holloway* did Meet at Mr. *Weſts* Chamber about three Weeks or a Month ſince; and did then reſolve to try what Men could be Raiſed in *London* and the Liberties; and that they might be more certain, *London* was Divided into Twenty Parts; and Mr. *Holloway*, Mr. *Wade* and Mr. *Weſt*, undertook to make the Diviſion; and Mr. *Weſt* and *Goodenough*, did undertake to find a Man for every Diviſion that ſhould bring in the certain number that they could Raiſe Reſpectively. And this Examinant further ſaith, that in the firſt Fortnight or thereabouts they did very little; but the next meeting after Mr. *Goodenough* brought in an account of ſeven Diviſions, which amounted to Three Thouſand Nine Hundred Men or thereabouts; and that he the ſaid *Goodenough* did believe that the remaining Diviſions would afford as many Men more: And it was further reſolved at that time that the Deſign in hand ſhould be kept ſecret until ſuch time as the return of the whole Diviſions ſhould be brought in.

And this Examinant being further asked, whether he did hear any Commanders or Commiſſion-Officers Named to Command theſe Forces, he ſaith he heard of no particular Names, but in General that there were a Hundred old Officers about the Town; that after that they certainly knew how many Men all the Diviſions would amount to they then reſolved this Examinant ſhould carry the Propoſal of Commanding theſe Forces to the Duke of *Monmouth*; but the Liſtings not being finiſhed, he never ſaid any thing of it to his Grace. And this Examinant further ſaith, that the pretence to make this Levy of Men was to aſſert Religion and Liberties. And this Examinant further ſaith, that there was a Declaration deſigned to be Publiſhed when theſe Forces ſhould be up; but that to the beſt of his memory he never ſaw it nor heard it Read, but he believes ſome part of it was Diſcourſed of in this Examinants preſence; as that touching Liberty of Conſcience, and

ſomething Relating to the Law and the Judges. And this Examinant further ſaith, that to the beſt of his memory on *Tueſday* laſt was Sennight this Examinant, Captain *Walcot*, *Weſt*, *Nelthrop*, *Goodenough* and *Wade*, met at the *Salutation* Tavern in *Lombard-Street*, to know what progreſs *Goodenough* had made in the other Thirteen Diviſions, who told this Examinant and the reſt, that he had done nothing ſince the laſt Meeting; but that he was to meet with ſome perſons that Afternoon, who were to give him a further Account: And this Examinant further ſaith that after they had Dined, one that was a Stranger to this Examinant came into the Room to ſpeak with Mr. *Goodenough*, and that Mr. *Weſt* asked him, if he had ſeen the *Gazette* of that Day, in which was a Relation of a Commotion in *Cologne* by one *Gulick*, and told him he ſhould be our *Gulick*, for that in Dutch *Gu--* was *Keil* and *ick* was *ing*, telling this in a Jeſting manner. And this Examinant further ſaith that on *Saturday* laſt was Sennight, he this Examinant, Mr. *Weſt*, and Mr. *Norton*, met at the *George* Tavern upon *Ludgate-Hill*, and then this Examinant was told that a Diſcovery was made of what they had been doing, and at preſent this Examinant further ſaith not.

J. Romzey.

25 *Die Junii* 1683.
Capt. & Recognit. Coram,

Albermarle.
L. Jenkins.

Further Informations of Colonel Romzey.

FUrther this Examinant ſaith, that Mr. *Ferguſon* and the reſt did in ſeveral Meetings ſince the beginning of *February* preſs for the having the Men got ready that were to Kill the King and Duke, and it was told him by Mr. *Goodenough* and *Richard Rumbal* and *Weſt*, that a great many were poor and could not furniſh themſelves with Horſes or Arms; this was preſently after his coming out of *Holland*: Mr. *Ferguſon* replyed, he would provide the Mony, and in two Meetings afterwards he told them he had Six Hundred pounds ready in Gold, that they might depend on him, when they had got the forty or fifty Men, under which number *Richard Rumbal* would not undertake it; and then *Rumbal* and the reſt asked *Ferguſon* at the firſt meeting we had, if he thought the Duke of *Monmouth* would not Revenge the Kings Death, and Hang thoſe that had been the Actors; Mr. *Ferguſon* very freely undertook to have it under the Dukes Hand againſt the next meeting, but when we met, he told them there was no ſaying any ſuch thing to the Duke, but he ſaid that we

muſt

muſt all be ruined if it were not done: Then they asked if the Duke would appear when it was done; to which he made anſwer, that a Perſon would be there, but he muſt be excuſed for Naming any Names, and deſired not to be preſſed: I told them always they were not to truſt to what Mr. *Ferguſon* ſaid, for he was ſo willing to have the moſt Barbarous Murther done that he would ſay any thing to encourage them to do it; ſuch Diſcourſe as this hapned ſeveral times at our meetings, ſome ſaying, When our Swords were in our Hands, if he would not protect them, that then he ſhould be cut off too: Such Helliſh Diſcourſes as theſe we Entertained our ſelves with, until the News of the Firing of *New-Market* came to Town: And then Mr. *Ferguſon* ſent for moſt of [redacted] and was earneſt that *Goodenough* and *Rumbal* ſhould get what Men they could, and that he could help them with Six, and that *Rumbal* ſhould attempt it with as many as could be got, but it was given over for that time, becauſe neither Arms nor Horſes were ready; then he promiſed that he would Immediatly get the Six Hundred pounds into his own Hands to provide all things in a readineſs againſt the firſt opportunity, whither at the Play-Houſe, between *Hampton-Court*, or going to *Wincheſter*, and ſaid that ſome perſons were already out to ſee a fit place to do it in, and if it could not be done before that, then all things ſhould be ready againſt the King and Dukes going down to *New-Market*, as Horſes bought and kept in a readineſs, and Arms which Mr. *Weſt* undertook to do, he being acquainted with a Gun-ſmith, and upon Mr. *Fergusons* promiſe that he would procure the Mony, Mr. *Weſt* beſpoke the Arms, and they were ready in a very little time: But when Mr. *Weſt* came and told Mr. *Ferguſon* that the Arms were ready (for ſix Weeks now I did not ſee *Ferguſon* but Mr. *Weſt* acquainted me with all paſſed as follows) he told the ſaid *Weſt* that his Friend had not brought him the Mony as he promiſed; alſo Mr. *Weſt* was forced to pay for the Arms out of his own Mony, which was not repaid him as he told this Examinant not above twenty days ſince or thereabouts: The ſaid *Weſt* told this Examinant that Mr. *Ferguſon* told him he might ſend for his Mony when he would, by a Note to Major *W.* but he muſt tell him the Name that he would make the Note Payable to, that he might tell the [redacted]me to Major *W.* the name I have forgot. In ſome very few days aft[redacted], as he the ſaid *Weſt* told this Examinant, the ſaid *Ferguſon* told him, that he muſt not ſend any Body or Note to receive the ſaid Hundred pounds, but *Richard Rumbal*, becauſe the ſaid *W.* would not truſt any body elſe; *Weſt* ſent the ſaid *Rumbal* very early one Morning, but the ſaid Major *W.* was gone out of Town before he came to the Houſe, which he went and acquainted the ſaid *Ferguſon* with: In a few days after the ſaid *Ferguſon* paid the ſaid *Weſt* a Hundred pounds in Gold, and as the ſaid *Weſt* then told this Examinant, that the ſaid *Ferguſon* told him, he did receive the ſaid Hundred pounds of Mr. *Charlton*; and about fourteen days ſince the ſaid *Weſt* and this Examinant going to Mr. *Ferguſon*, he told us that there was Three Thouſand pounds Raiſed for to buy Horſes, and to maintain them and the Men in a Readineſs, that if any opportunity offered all might be ready; but did not tell us from whom he was to have this Mony, neither did either of us ask him any queſtion about it. Further this Examinant

ſaith

ſaith, that to the beſt of his Remembrance, in *January* laſt, Mr. *Nelthrop* told this Examinant, that meeting Colonel *Sidney* he told him that now ſomething would be done, for that it was reſolved to ſend ſome perſons into *Scotland* to ſome Gentlemen there to come to Town, that they might know what the Scots could do, but they knew not of a Man fit to ſend; and the ſaid *Nelthrop* told this Examinant that he recommended one Mr. *Aaron Smith* as a fit man. And further this Examinant ſaith, that the ſaid *Nelthrop* told this Examinant that the Colonel and others had ſent him (*Aaron Smith*) with a Letter to Sir *John Cochran* to adviſe him and his Friends to come to *London* about their *Carolina* affairs, and that a good Gelding was bought for him, or Mony given to him to buy one; as alſo Mony was given him by Colonel *Owen* to pay his Expences on the Road and alſo that ſome Mony was given to his Wife for her maintenance, ſhe being in Poverty. Upon this Letter Sir *John Cochran* came to *London*, and ſome other Scotch Gentlemen, whoſe Names this Examinant does not know, but as the ſaid *Nelthrop* and Mr. *Ferguſon* did acquaint this Examinant, they were to Treat with ſome of this Nation what was to be done for the Delivery of the Nations: The ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant, that the Scotch Gentlemen did acquaint thoſe they Treated with, (not Naming any of their Names) that their people were in very great Poverty, but very willing to ſet themſelves at Liberty, but they had no Arms nor Ammunition nor Mony to buy any and without they could let them have Mony to furniſh Arms and Ammunition, they could do nothing. During this laſt Tranſaction of the Scots for Mony I did not ſee Mr. *Ferguſon*, but Mr. *Weſt* who went conſtantly to him did tell me their Diſcourſe, as that ſometimes the Scotch Gentlemen were departing diſcontented, and then again in three or four days that they were like to agree and that Mony ſhould be provided for them: Often he told me of ſuch changes as theſe in that Tranſaction and that Mr. *Ferguſon* did aſſure the ſaid *Weſt*, that the Mony would be all paid in one Week; I anſwered the ſaid *Weſt*, who would have had me gone to *Ferguſon*, that I would not ſee him until I was certain it was paid, for the ſaid *Ferguſon* undertook much and did nothing but promiſe what he could not do. There was a debate what Declaration ſhould be preſently after the Murther of the King and Duke and amongſt other things a Free Parliament was one Head; Liberty of Conſcience was another; That thoſe that had their Lands taken from them at the Kings Reſtauration ſhould have them returned: A Reformation of the Expenſive part of the Law: Mr. *Ferguſon* undertook that one ſhould be ready: Mr. *Weſt* did further acquaint this Examinant, that my Lord *Howard* had been at his Chamber to Pump him the ſaid *Weſt* what we were doing and that his Lordſhip did deſire to have a meeting with the ſaid *Weſt* and this Examinant, which neither the ſaid *Weſt* nor this Examinant were willing to; and the ſaid *Weſt* did further acquaint this Examinant that my Lord *Howard* did propoſe a Council of Ten to meet; but we not conſenting to meet, the ſaid *Weſt* did civilly put off the Propoſition, as he the ſaid *Weſt* did Inform this Examinant. And further this Examinant ſaith, That Diſcourſing with Mr. *Weſt* and Mr. *Goodenough*, and others about the Scotch Affair,

ſair, they did tell me, That the laſt Spring there was a Treaty with the Earl of *Argile* and that then without Mony the Scots declared they could not begin, but that the Earl of *Shaftsbury* broke that Deſign, not conſenting to pay the Money: This Examinant never heard any thing of this Deſign, untill the ſaid *Weſt*, *Norton*, and *Goodenough* did tell him thereof. And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Nelthrop* and Mr. *Wade* did always oppoſe the Murthering of the King and the Duke, and ſo did Captain *Walcot*, but at laſt the ſaid *Walcot* conſented. And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Bourn*, and Mr. *Goodenoughs* Brother were at ſome of the laſt Meetings about the raiſing of the Men: This Examinant ſaith, That to the beſt of his Memory he hath here ſet down every thing that was ſaid or Tranſacted in the Debates when he was there, but he was abſent from ſome.

J. Romzey.

Colonel Romzey's *further Information.*

THis Examinant further ſaith that being ſent by the Earl of *Shaftsbury* about the the beginning of *November* laſt to Mr. *Shepards* a Merchant near *Lombard-ſtreet*, where was the Duke of *Monmouth*, Lord *Ruſſel*, Lord *Grey*, Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* and Mr. *Ferguſon*; this Examinant told them my Lord *Shaftsbury* had ſent him to tell them it was high time to come to ſome Reſolution about the Riſing: They made him this Anſwer by Mr. *Ferguſon*, (and afterwards my Lord *Grey* ſaid words to the ſame effect) that Mr. *John Trenchard* had promiſed and aſſured them at his firſt coming to Town that Term, that he could in four hours time have a Thouſand Foot and Two or Three Hundred Horſe, but now they had ſent to him to know the certainty, he had returned to them this following anſwer, That Men would not be got from home on two or three days warning, but that when ſuch a thing as a Riſing ſhould be, he muſt know it ſooner, that he might acquaint Men to make Proviſion of Settlements for their Families ſo they could not go on at this time any further. And for this reaſon and that they heard Sir *William Courtney* would not ſtir, my Lord muſt be contented. This Meſſage I returned to my Lord: On this my Lord reſolved to leave *England*. This Examinant further ſaith, that there was a Project of Government drawn up by Mr. *Weſt* and Mr. *Wade* which they delivered to this Examinant and he gave it to Mr. *Ferguſon*, who told them that he heard Colonel *Sydney* had drawn one, that he would compare them together and reduce them into one intire one. And this Examinant further ſaith that Mr. *Nelthrop* told him that my Lord of *Eſſex*, my Lord *Ruſſel*, Colonel *Sydney*, and young Mr. *Hamden* were

the perſons that did Treat with the Scotch Gentlemen and ſo did Mr. *Weſt*, and I think Mr. *Ferguſon*. Mr. *Nelthrop* and Mr. *Weſt*, during the time I did not ſee Mr. *Ferguſon*, told me that now they were reſolved to Raiſe Ten Thouſand pounds for the Scots and that next Week it ſhould all be paid in. That was about a Month ſince. But they had been with Mr. *Shepard* the Merchant, and he told them there was none paid. This Mony was to buy Arms in *Holland*. Mr. *Ferguſon* told this Examinant the Riſing muſt be in *Scotland* before Harveſt or elſe their people would not be got together and that in four days after the Scots were up we ſhould have the firſt Intelligence and that then we muſt Riſe in this Town and in *Taunton*. My Lord *Howard* was at firſt one with my Lord *Eſſex* and the reſt, but he told Captain *Walcot* and Mr. *Weſt* what paſſed amongſt them, for which reaſon he was left out of the meetings. Further this Examinant ſaith that Mr. *Wade* and *Holloway* told him how they had fixed the matter for *Briſtol*; that they were ſure of Three Hundred Men, and that they would Poſt them in all the Croſs Streets, ſo that none of the other party ſhould get together in a Body or out of their Houſes. By this means they ſhould be Maſters of the Town without ſpilling one drop of Blood. And this Examinant further ſaith that *Goodenough* told *Wade*, *Weſt* and this Examinant, that about twenty five Hundred Arms would be wanting for the Men that would Riſe here; for without they were Armed that were on the firſt to Riſe here, we ſhould be beat; therefore *Weſt* and this Examinant did acquaint Mr. *Ferguſon* from the reſt that did meet, of the neceſſity of having ſo many Arms. He replyed, Mony ſhould not be wanting; but how ſo many Arms could be bought without a diſcovery? Mr. *Weſt* did undertake that if Mony were given, the Arms might be had; and ſome perſon of the Company did name a Gun-ſmith that was an honeſt Man that might without ſuſpition have two or three Hundred Arms, and other Gun-ſmiths might, if inquired after, be found, that might lodge proportionable quantities in their Shops, and the Men ſhould be led to theſe Shops and Armed. It was ſaid by *Goodenough* that ſix hundred Arms were together in the Artillery Ground which might be eaſily ſeized on. Many debates we had about the *Tower*; ſome propoſed the taking of it by day-time, by ſending ſome Men in only with Pocket Piſtols, and when the Sign was given they were to fall on the Guard; but this was left off as not agreeing with a Riſing by night; and then the other way was to clap two or three hundred Fagots to the Gates and ſet them on Fire, which would make thoſe within ſurrender and that Ships ſhould come and lye before the *Tower* and batter it at the ſame time the Fagots were on fire.

J. Romzey.

Colonel

Colonel Romzeys *Letter to the Earl of* Rocheſter concerning the Scotch Pedlars.

My Lord,

'WHen the Riſing was to have been in *November*, Mr. *Ferguſon* did ſay that he could 'promiſe for three Hundred Scots in this Town that 'would be ready at a days warning and that there was 'in *England* twelve Hundred that might be depended upon; 'that three or four Hundred did always abide here, 'the reſt were ſcattered throughout *England* with Packs on 'their Backs for the maintenance of themſelves; that a 'great many of them were Gentlemens Sons and all of 'them had been at *Bothwel-Bridge*, and betook them to this 'way to get (and carry) Intelligence as well as a living.

J. Romzey.

Another Letter from Colonel Romzey *to the Earl of* Rocheſter.

My Lord,

'I Do not know whether I have already in any of my 'Papers where I mention Mr. *Roe*, acquainted the King 'of one paſſage he told me, (but I think I have) that '*Gibbons* the Duke of *Monmouths* Foot-man did tell him, 'that nothing but taking off the two Brothers would do the 'buſineſs and if he would go with him, he would ſhew him 'the place to do it; he carried him to my Lord of *Bedfords* 'Garden, where I think he told me is a Mount to look into '*Covent-Garden* and ſaid no place can be like this to lodge 'Men in to do the Feat and ſhewed him the Garden-door 'where they might make a ſally on the Coach if they miſt 'with their fire. Mr. *Roe* asked him, But how will you bring 'the Men in? He told him my Lord was long in the Country, 'and he was ſo well acquainted with the Porter and Servants 'that he could have the Key at any time. The ſaid *Gibbons* told 'Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* as if *Roe* had propoſed it to *Gibbons*, 'and Sir *Thomas* came to me in a great Paſſion and told 'me what I have related, and bid me ſpeak to *Roe* to warn 'him of talking of any ſuch thing. When I did ſpeak to '*Roe* he Confeſſed the thing, but that *Gibbons* moved it 'to him, for he knew not any thing of my Lord of *Bedfords* 'Garden or Servants.

'This was to be done as the King came from the Play. 'I cannot recollect whether I was twice at Mr. *Shepards* 'with the Duke of *Monmouth*, &c. or but once; but if I 'was but once, then I heard Mr. *Ferguſon* relate to my Lord 'of *Shaftsbury* ſome part of their Debates at another time, as 'that they had reſolved of the 19*th.* of *November* for the 'Riſing and ſome heads of a Declaration: Whether I heard 'this Debate at Mr. *Sheperds* or at my Lord *Shaftsburies* 'Lodgings I cannot be poſitive in, but Mr. *Shepard* I 'believe may remember.

J. Romzey

The

The further Information of Colonel Romſey.

THis Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Ferguſon* was at this Examinants Houſe for ſeven or eight nights, intermiting a night two or three, which time he told me he went to his Wife. During the time he was at my Houſe, the Duke of *Monmouth* came to ſee him, to the beſt of my remembrance twice; the firſt time I was with them, and all the Diſcourſe that paſſed was about my Lord *Shaftsbury*'s death, and relating the Affairs of *Holland* and the Confederates, the Duke not ſtaying a quarter of an hour. The next time I was not in the room with them. Sir *Thomas Armeſtrong* came ſeveral times in a Morning to ſee him, ſometimes before I was ſtiring; the firſt time I ſhewed him the room where he lay, and did not go in with him, but went to dreſs me, I being in my ſhirt.

Andrew Barbers *Informations read in Council,* 23 June, 1683.

ON Saturday morning, about the latter end of *March* laſt paſt, Mr. *Keeling* came to me, and told me, that he and ſome other Friends of mine, would have me come to the *Mitre* Tavern within *Aldgate*, becauſe they would drink a glaſs of Wine with me; and there I came to them, and found Mr. *Rumbal*, a one Eyed man, Mr. *Keeling*, *Burton*, and *Thompſon*, I ſate down with them and drank; ſoon after Mr. *Rumbald* fell into Diſcourſe concerning getting of Arms to his Houſe; he was ſpeaking, he thought it would be a good way to ſend them in a Barge, but he concluded 'twould not be ſafe; but ſaid, he thought that thoſe that would be concerned ſhould ride with Arms themſelves betimes in the Morning, or in the Night, and ſo come to his Houſe, and there they ſhould be refreſhed, and their Horſes, till he ſhould order them what to do. Some I underſtand were to continue on Horſeback, and they that were to kill the Horſes, Coach-man, and Poſtillion, and to ſhoot into the Coach, were to be on foot; and he would order Carts to be ſet croſs the Road for to hinder them. So then *Rumbald* asked if we could ſhoot well, I told him I could not, I never ſhot at a mark in my life; the others ſaid, let them alone for that; ſays *Keeling*, he is a good Souldier and a luſty man, what do you think of him? he made no anſwer, ſo I anſwered I was no Souldier fit for that work, and ſaid, that it would be Murder to Kill, and he ſaid it would be a means not to Kill, but to ſave many thouſand mens Lives. When I had done, he ſaid he would order ſome to bring word what Coach by the colour of the Horſes, that they may not be miſtaken, for this was to be, as I underſtood, in *Rumbalds* own ground, for his Houſe joyns to the Road; and he ſaid they muſt come by his Houſe to come to *London*, ſo he ſaid, he would ingage his Life to do it, if he had but Thirty men, but he expected Forty; and for Horſes Mr. *Keeling* ſaid, he would get as many as he could, but it was not concluded on, by reaſon *Rumbald* did expect to have ſeen more at

that place,but Mr.*Keeling* promiſed him they ſhould be ready at the next Meeting, which was to be the next Wedneſday after, as I remember, but then I reſolved never to come into their company more, nor be concerned with them, becauſe I did underſtand there would be Murther committed, nor have been in their company ſince, nor I never ſaw that *Rumbald* before nor ſince. Likewiſe I replied, if you ſhould do ſo,how will you eſcape? *Rumbald* anſwered, he would fight his way through, and ſeparate themſelves into By-roads, and make what way they could for *London*, and then they ſhould do well enough. All this time I never heard that this was intended againſt the King, for he was never mentioned in any reſpect, that I did underſtand, but I did verily believe that it was meant by his Royal Highneſs. So we paid our reckoning, which was I think, ſix pence apiece, and they went towards the *Exchange*, but I directly home, and have not been in their company ſince, nor no other tending to ſuch evil work.

Andrew Barber.

Moreover, *Rumbald* ſaid, that there was never above one or two that rid before the Coach; and likewiſe, if they could get to *Cambridge* Heath,or thereabouts, they ſhould have friends enough for their help.

In the Gate-houſe *the* 29th June, 83. *Major* Holmes *Confeſſed.*

THat in order to the late Earl of *Argile*'s going into *Scotland*, and raiſing a Rebellion there,he had propoſed that 30000 *l. Sterling* ſhould be ſent to him from hence, by ſome great perſons, with whom a Treaty was held for that purpoſe by *Ferguſon*; but that they refuſed to advance ſo great a ſum yet,condeſcended to ſend him 10000 *l.* which *Holmes* knoweth not whether the late Earl hath accepted of, as ſufficient for effectuating that deſign.

Upon his being ask'd, who were the great men by whoſe means the Money was to be advanced, he proteſted that he had never converſed with any of them, but that he had heard often the Duke of *Monmouth*, and particularly the Lord *Ruſſel* named; and as to the Lord *Grey*, he did not remember that his Lordſhip was mentioned unto him in the matter of Money, but did confeſs that he had frequently been told of his being ingaged in, and a promoter of the deſign in general.

He confeſſed, that the Letter marked *Numb.* 2. is from the Counteſs of *Argile* to her Husband, and that he was to have ſent it away by the Poſt laſt Tueſday into *Holland*, had he not been taken into Cuſtody. That it was directed for *Peter Harvie* Linnen Weaver (which is not a true name) in *Bow Church-yard*, and was left at one Mr.*Browns* Houſe a Sider-ſeller there, where *Holmes* uſually received her Letters under that borrowed name, but ſaith that he cannot decypher this, nor any of her Letters.

As to the long Letter marked *Numb.*3.he proteſts he cannot Decipher it, nor can poſitively ſay for whom it was to have been directed, yet thinks it was to have been carried by *Caſtarres* to *Ferguſon*, and by him to the chief men concerned in the Deſign.

Upon

Upon inquiring what is become of the parcel of Books, which are the Printed Caſe of the Earl of *Argile*, and in what method they were brought over from *Holland*, he confeſſed that they had been ſhipped on board of a Veſſel, called (to the beſt of his memory) the *Succeſs* of *Colcheſter*, bound for *London*, and that *Spence* was afterwards to come in the Paſſage Boat deſigned to have come to *Graves-end*, but that the wind having been very croſs, he came on ſhoar at, or ſomewhat near *Harwich*, from whence he came by Land to *London*.

Upon asking what was meant by the Figures 80 and 81, in the Letters marked *Numb.* 5. he ſaid he did not well remember, but when I told him that I knew by the Cypher, Money was meant by 50, and Officers by 51. he confeſſed that it was ſo; whereupon I did obſerve to him, that as the late Earl was to have had Money, ſo he was to have been furniſhed with Officers for the carrying on the Rebellion in *Scotland*, which alſo he confeſſed, but ſaid withal, that this Letter was intended for his Lady, which he knew by a mark on the back, and ſhewed it to me.

The Examination of Robert Blaney *of the Middle* Temple *Eſq*; 29 June, 83.

THis Examinant Depoſeth and ſaith, That this Deponent was invited about *Chriſtmaſs* laſt, on Wedneſday the 27th day of *December* laſt, (as near as he can remember) by *John Row*, late Sword-bearer of the City of *Briſtol*, to Dine with Collonel *John Rumzey*, at his Houſe in *Soho Square*, where were preſent the ſaid Colonel *Romzey*, *Robert Weſt*, *Richard Goodenough*, *Joſeph Tyley* of *Lincolns-Inn* Eſq; *Chriſtopher Battiſcomb* Gent. and the ſaid *John Row*, and this Examinant; where being together after dinner, and much Wine and other ſtrong drink drank in the ſaid company, a Diſcourſe was began, but by whom this Examinant cannot remember, about the times being very bad and dangerous for Sober Men, and what Remedies were fit to redreſs Grievances, and rid our ſelves of Arbitrary Power, or to that effect; and it was there likewiſe diſcourſed and ſaid, but by whom in particular, this Examinant cannot exactly remember, it being ſo long ſince, that we ſhould never be well till we were rid of two people, by whom as this Examinant did apprehend, were meant His Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *York*. And it was likewiſe ſaid, That if the Great People did but agree to Joyn and Riſe, or words to that effect, it might be done, for the Countries were all willing and ready; then as this Examinant doth remember by ſome one, it was in the ſaid company propoſed, and as he verily believes by the ſaid Mr. *Weſt*, that either a Deed of Bargain and Sale, or Leaſe and Releaſe, (one of them it was) ſhould be executed to bar both Him in Poſſeſſion, and Him in Remainder; by which as this Examinant did then apprehend, was meant the taking off His Majeſty, and his Royal Highneſs, and ſo he believes the reſt of the ſaid company did alſo. And a glaſs of Wine did paſs round the ſaid Table, as a Health to the Executing of the ſaid Bargain and Sale, or Leaſe and Releaſe, (which he cannot tell, but one of them it was.) And this Examinant further ſaith, that he never was preſent at any other Conſultation with

the before-named perſons, or any others about the Death of the King, or his Royal Higneſs, or the raiſing of any Rebellion, that this Examinant can remember; except that being very frequently as a familiar Acquaintance with the ſaid Mr. *Weſt*, he hath often asked him, and the ſaid Colonel *Rumzey*, whether the Great Men would do any thing, and whether any buſineſs would be done; or he uſed words to that effect, but they did conſtantly, as this Examinant remembers, anſwer him No, that nothing would be done; and the ſaid Colonel *Rumzey* ſeemed (as this Examinant did apprehend) to be very ſhy of him this Examinant; and much like Diſcourſe this Examinant hath had with the ſaid *Goodenoughs*, but never was, as he remembers, acquainted with the proſecution or particulars of ſuch a Deſign in the leaſt. And one *Nathaniel Wade* alſo, this Examinant hath had ſome ſuch Diſcourſe with, about freeing our ſelves from Arbitrary Power and Popery, by a general Riſing, but any particular ways and methods for the ſame, or otherwiſe, this Examinant never knew of, or was privy to. And further at preſent this Deponent cannot recollect.

Robert Blaney.

29 Jun. 83. *Jurat. coram me*

L. JENKINS.

The further Examination of Robert Blaney, *July* 1. 83.

WHo ſaith, that he ſaw *Ferguſon* ſince the Earl of *Shaftsburies* death, in the Houſe of one *Bourne* a Brewer, living in *Queenſtreet*, over againſt the Lord Keepers; that it was about a quarter of a year ſince; that *Ferguſon* was in a Night-gown, and therefore he believes he lay in that Houſe; that the Diſcourſe they had was about the Earl of *Shaftsbury* and his death.

This Examinant ſaith, that about three weeks after the Earl of *Shaftsbury* had concealed himſelf, he ſaw him at a Merchants Houſe, whoſe name he remembers not, but the Houſe is in *Woodſtreet*, near St. *Albans* Church, the corner Houſe, having a little Yard before it, next door to a Houſe that was one Mr. *Biddolfs*.

He ſaith, he knows nothing of the manner of the Earl of *Shaftsburies* Eſcape, nor of *Fergusons*, nor knows no other places but the abovementioned, where either of them were at any time concealed.

He remembers that he was twice or thrice at the Sign of the Sugarloaf, near the *Devil Tavern* with *Ferguſon*, and once with another perſon, who he thinks was young *Shut*, about the time the Earl of *Shaftsbury* abſented himſelf; but that *Ferguſon* was not then diſguiſed, but in the Habit he uſed commonly to wear, which was a Ruſſet colour Campane Coat, and a brown ſhort Perewig.

Thomas

Thomas Lee *Dyer of* Old-ſtreet, *his Confeſſion,* 1, *and* 2 July, 1685.

I Having been often in the Company of Mr. *John Atherton*, he told me, about *May* laſt, that Mr. *Goodenough* muſt ſpeak with me, and Mr. *William Thomas*. We went to the *Salutation* Tavern in *Lumbard ſtreet*, Mr. *Goodenough* came to tell us and then drew out ſome papers, (but I ſaw not what was in them) and there told us that our Rights and Priviledges were Invaded and that ſome Gentlemen had taken into conſideration how to retrieve them or words to that effect; and did then ask us whether we were willing to aſſiſt, and then told us that the City and Suburbs were divided into Twenty parts, and did deſire us to ſee what men we could get and told us, that we muſt diſcourſe with them about a Forreign Invaſion at firſt and if that took, then we might know of them, whether they would be willing to aſſiſt in their own perſons, or by Money? Some time after we met Mr. *Goodenough* at the *Amſterdam* Coffee-houſe in *Bartholemew-lane*; I told him that I had acquainted Mr. *Charles Bateman* and he deſired to ſpeak with Mr. *Goodenough*. That Mr. *Bateman* told me I muſt have a care, and ſpeak at a great diſtance that he was willing to aſſiſt, if he could ſee but a cloud as big as a mans hand and after I called on Mr. *Bateman*, and went with him to a Sea-Captains, and from thence to the Duke of *Monmouth* Houſe in *Soho* Square. As we went, Mr. *Bateman* told me that the Duke had told him, that he was glad that ever he came acquainted with thoſe Proteſtant Lords; and did aſſure me that the Duke was very right for the Proteſtant Intereſt and that we need not miſtruſt him and then we called to ſee Mr. *Goodenough*, but were too late. The ſame afternoon I went to ſee for Mr. *Goodenough* and found him at the *Dolphin* Tavern in *Bartholemew-lane* and I appointed him to come to the *Kings-head* in *Swithens-alley* in *Cornhil*; where he came and told me, that they were making ready and asked me what I had done in that matter? I told him, not much, becauſe I doubted they were not prepared with Money and Arms, he told me that they had both. I asked him what ſtore of Money they had? he told me, Twenty thouſand pounds, and then we went into company, and talked no more about that affair. Some days after I met with him again, and he told me, that he had ſeen Mr. *Bateman*, and that he hoped he would be very ſerviceable, and asked me what that *Southwark* man was? I told him he was very honeſt and willing, and that I had ſpoken with him, and he deſired that he might ſpeak with him. I called him, and they diſcourſed together alone, and after that he asked me, who that ancient Gentleman was, I told him, that he was an old Souldier and that his name was *Franks*; he deſired me to call him, and I did, and diſcourſed the matter, and he not hearing of it before, was a little ſurprized; but ſaid, that he was willing to fight for Priviledge, which he thought was Invaded, but not for Religion. The next day I went to meet Mr. *Goodenough* at *Richards* Coffee-houſe at *Temple-bar*; there I met with Mr. *Hone*, and he had me over to the *Kings-head Tavern*, and there told me, it had been our great miſchief, that there had not been an underſtanding betwixt the Cavaliers and us; that there were a great many brave men about the *Temple*, and that the job had been done upon the Black-Bird and Gold-Finch ſome time before, if it had

not been for an accident that happened at *Newmarket*. Soon after came in Mr. *Francis Goodenough*, and Mr. *Hone* told me that I might be free with him. We diſcourſed about the matter, he ſaid they were making all things in a readineſs againſt their coming from *Windſor*, and that he thought they muſt get Three hundred Horſe to ſeize them coming from *Windſor*. Some time after I met with Mr. *Richard Goodenough*, and aſked him what readineſs things were in, he told me that in a few days, he thought he ſhould have an account how many men they could raiſe. I told him that I had ſpoken with Mr. *Rous* and that he could help them to Arms for a Hundred men; and that a way was propoſed how to raiſe a Thouſand Seamen, if they would be at the charge of a Golden Ball to be played upon *Black-heath*. He asked me what the Ball would coſt? I told him, I was informed, about Twelve pounds. He ſaid, if it were Forty, they would be at the charge of it. Then he deſired to ſpeak with Mr. *Rous*, and appointed to meet him at the *Kings-head* Tavern in *Swithings-alley*, and they met and went into a room apart, and afterwards we went to *Joſephs* Coffee-houſe in *Exchange-alley*, and Mr. *Rous* told me, that he would ſee and get Ten Sea-Captains to manage that affair. The next day I met with Mr. *Rous* at the *Amſterdam* Coffee-houſe, there he ſpoke with two Captains, as he told me, and from thence he went with them to the *Angel* and *Crown* Tavern in *Threadneedle-ſtreet*, but I did not go with them. I ſaw him afterwards at the *Kings-head*, and he told me, he muſt have Mr. *Goodenough* go with him to *Wapping*, I acquainted Mr. *Goodenough* with it, and he told me, that that buſineſs of the *Tower* was left to ſome men, that underſtood thoſe affairs better than himſelf, and that they muſt be in a readineſs to do all together; I asked him what that was, he told me they muſt Seize the *Tower*, and take the City, and ſecure the *Savoy* and *Whitehall*, and the King and the Duke. Sometime after I met Mr. *Francis Goodenough* in *Weſtminſter-hall*, he had me behind *Kidals* Coffee-houſe, and told me, that the Countrey-Gentry were ready, and ſaid, he deſired it might not be delayed long. The next time I ſaw Mr. *Richard Goodenough*, was at the *Kings-head*. I called at Mr. *Jenkes*, and underſtood that he had almoſt dined, and I left word that I was gone thither, and he came to me, and I told him I had ſpoke with one in *Old-ſtreet*, and that he was willing to aſſiſt with Money, and another in *White-croſs-ſtreet*, that told me, that he would aſſiſt himſelf, and had Arms for Ten men, and Mr. *Goodenough* told me, that they were about Summing up their Men, and that they ſhould be ready in a fortnight or leſs.

The Examination of Hicks *living in* Friday-*ſtreet* London, *taken before His Majeſty, the third of* July 16, 83.

WHo ſaith, that he did hear from *Wade* (as he thinketh) that the City was to be divided into parts, and that *Wade* told him, there would be a Riſing of the Papiſts to cut all their Throats, to which he had anſwered, that he did not believe it; But that the Law of Nature taught him to ſtand upon his own defence. And that he the Examinant further adding, that this imported Evil and that he would not conſent to it. *Wade* then replied, he the Examinant muſt periſh then by himſelf.

The

The Examination of Robert West *of the Middle-*Temple *Barriſter at Law, taken the* 23 June, 1683.

THis Examinant ſaith, he having a general acquaintance with thoſe of the City of *London*, that are commonly called *Whiggs*; obſerved about *Michaelmas* laſt a general diſcontent amongſt them, by reaſon (as he apprehends) of the Elections that had gone before of the Mayor and Sheriffs, and of their apprehenſions of the loſs of their Charter: whereon this Examinant fearing that their hearts might tranſport them to commit ſome extravagancies, and to prevent his own Family's being ruined by them, was very inquiſitive to know whether any Inſurrection might be deſigned. And this Examinant after ſome time, was inform'd by ſome perſons, who at preſent he cannot remember, that an Inſurrection was intended in *November* laſt in the City of *London*, but the particulars of it this Examinant was never acquainted with; and he heard ſoon after that the Deſign was wholly laid aſide. And this Examinant further ſaith, That about the time His Majeſty came from *Newmarket*, in or about *October* laſt, he heard that there was a Deſign to ſeize the King & the Duke of *York*; but this Examinant does not know the place where, nor the perſons who were to act therein. And this Examinant further ſaith, that about the latter end of *October*, or the beginning of *November* laſt, this Examinant met with Mr. *Robert Ferguſon*, whom he had been long acquainted with, and the ſaid Mr. *Ferguſon* gave this Examinant an account of the great miſeries the people of *Scotland* lay under, and did believe the people of *England* would ſuffer the like, and Popery over run the Nation, unleſs the people themſelves endeavoured to prevent it. And told this Examinant, that two ways had been thought on (but named not by whom) one by a general Inſurrection in ſeveral parts of the Kingdom, and the other a more Compendious and ſafe way of taking away the King and Duke by ſome ſurprize in ſome Journey. To which this Examinant anſwered to this effect, to wit, That he looked upon the firſt method to be impracticable and full of hazard, the Militia, Navy, Forts, and Ammunition being in the hands of the Government, and the people as it were naked; and ſuch an attempt might intail a long and Bloody War upon the Nation, and muſt end in the deſtruction of the King and Duke, or elſe it would be vain. And therefore the ſecond method of taking them off by ſurprize was moſt rational, if there were a neceſſity of doing the one thing or the other. And this Examinant further ſaith, that after this diſcourſe, the ſaid Mr. *Ferguſon* went into *Holland*, and after his return from thence, had ſeveral Diſcourſes with this Examinant to the ſame effect, concerning the deſtroying the King and the Duke; and that there would be an opportunity ſhortly of doing it, either upon the King and Dukes going to, or coming from *Newmarket*.

This Examinant further ſaith, That ſoon after the ſaid Mr. *Ferguſon*

Mr. *Richard Goodenough*, Mr. *Richard Rumball*, this Examinant, and ſometime Colonel *Rumzey* (ſo called) and Capt. *Walcott* met, ſometimes at this Examinants Chamber, and ſometimes at other places where they uſed to debate and conſider of the method of putting the Deſign of killing the King and the Duke in Execution.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That none of the perſons above mentioned, ſave *Richard Rumball* only, was to act in perſon, in the ſaid attempt, but the ſaid *Robert Ferguſon*, *Richard Rumball*, and *Richard Goodenough*, undertook to provide the perſons to make the ſaid Attempt; which perſons were to be 40 at leaſt, and 50 if they could procure them.

This Examinant further ſaith, That there was alſo a further debate what ſort of Arms ſhould be made uſe of in the Attempt: And it was agreed there ſhould be Blunderbuſſes, Muskets or Carbines, and Piſtols; but how the ſaid Arms ſhould be carried down, whether before-hand, or by the perſons on Horſeback, this Examinant does not remember they came to any reſolution.

This Examinant further ſaith, that it was reſolved that ſome of the perſons who were to make the Attempt ſhould kill one or more of the Horſes in the Kings Coach, and then one party ſhould ſet upon the Coach and ſhoot into it, and another party fight the Guards; and if there ſhould be occaſion, a Cart ſhould be overturned in the Road on purpoſe to ſtop the Coach.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that after the ſaid Reſolution above-taken, this Examinant was much troubled in his mind, and endeavoured to repreſent ſeveral difficulties and hazards in the thing, and the ill conſequences thereof whether it ſucceeded or not, with an intention to have diverted the thing.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that after the Fire at *Newmarket*, and before the Kings return from thence ſooner than was expected, this Examinant and the other perſons above-mentioned met at this Examinants Chamber, where becauſe they had no certain intelligence how long the King would ſtay there before his return to *London*, it was agreed, to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, that the Attempt ſhould be then wholly laid aſide.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that ſome ſhort time after the Kings return from *Newmarket*, there being a diſcourſe at a Tavern in the City between this Examinant and the ſaid *Rumball*, and one *John Keeling*, concerning the diſappointment of their ſaid attempt, in not having the Arms ready; and the ſaid *Keeling* openly mentioning Blunderbuſſes, Muskets, and Piſtols, this Examinant adviſed him to call the ſaid Arms by the names of Swan-Quills, Gooſe-Quills, and Crow-Quils, that the Drawers might not take notice.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that at the ſame Tavern, the ſaid *Richard Rumball* told this Examinant, and the ſaid *Keeling*, that the King came by his Houſe with a ſlender Guard of Six Horſe, much Tyred, and that ſix men well provided might have made the attempt and ſucceeded in it.

And this Examinant further ſaith that, ſome ſhort time after, it was agreed by this Examinant, the ſaid *Ferguſon*, *Rumball* and *Goodenough*, that ſome Arms ſhould be bought to be in a readineſs for any occaſion: and becauſe this Examinant was no otherwiſe capable to ſerve in any ſuch Deſign, it was propoſed to him and he undertook to

buy

buy ſome Arms; and accordingly this Examinant beſpake of one *Daſt* a Gunſmith in *Sheer lane*, 30 Caſe of Piſtols, 30 Carbines with Belts and Swivels, and 10 Blunderbuſſes, beſides Bullets and Flints, on pretence of ſending the ſame into *America*, but the ſame were not entred at the Cuſtome-houſe till Tueſday laſt, although this Examinant did deſign to have done ſo ſix weeks before.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That being at a Tavern about three weeks or a month ſince with *Nathaniel Wade*, *Richard Nelthrop* and others, where the ſaid Mr. *Nelthrop* was reading a Gazette, wherein there were Relations of Tumults at *Colegne*, abetted by one *Gulick*, the ſaid *Keeling* came into the Room to ſpeak with one of the Company; and Mr. *Nelthrop* in a jeaſting manner called the ſaid *Keeling*, *Gulick*; whereupon the ſaid *Keeling* ſaid to this Examinant, *What think you for all your jeaſting, if I and ſome few more of my Friends ſhould ſave the City Charter and the Nation?* or words to this effect. To whom this Examinant replyed, he would do very well to do ſo: but then asked him the manner how he would do it? To which he anſwered, That no body ſhould know it till they had done; but hoped he ſhould not be hanged for't: Upon which words this Examinant ſuſpecting the ſaid *Keeling* meant ſome extravagant thing, bid him take care not to do any fooliſh thing and ruine the Proteſtants.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about *Eaſter* laſt ſome Diſcourſes were had concerning the making ſome Attempt upon the King and Duke, between *Windſor* and *Hampton-Court*, but no reſolution therein was ever taken to this Examinants knowledge or remembrance.

This Examinant further ſaith, That there was ſome Conſiderations lately had how to make an Eſtimate of the ſtrength of the Proteſtant party, in caſe they ſhould be put upon their own Defence; when it was agreed that the City and Subburbs ſhould be divided into twenty parts, and that ſome perſon well acquainted in each Diviſion, ſhould enquire into and make a return of the number he ſhould find; which returns are not yet made to the Examinants knowledge: And more this Examinant for the preſent ſaith not.

Robert Weſt.

23° *Die* Junii 1683.

Capt. & Recognit coram me

L. JENKINS.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *Barriſter at Law of the* Middle-Temple, *the* 24th *of* June, 1683.

THis Examinant ſaith, That he was informed of the Inſurrection in his former Examination mentioned to have been deſigned in *November* laſt by *Thomas Walcot*, who told this Examinant that the ſame was projected by the late Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and was to have been put in execution the 19 of *November* laſt, but that he looked upon it as a mad thing, which he had no thoughts to engage in; and afterwards told this Examinant that it was wholly laid aſide.

And this Examination further ſaith, That to the beſt of his remembrance *Francis Shute* lately deceaſed was the perſon who acquainted this Examinant that an Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke in their return from *Newmarket* in or about *October* laſt had been intended and that he heard the ſame from Mr. *Ferguſon*; and this Examinant asking Mr. *Ferguſon* about it, the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant, that it had not been thought of time enough, and therefore could not be done or words to that effect.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That he diſcourſing with the ſaid *Ferguſon* concerning the late intended Attempt upon the King and Duke in their return from *Newmarket* asked the ſaid *Ferguſon* what care was taken to juſtifie the ſame, if in caſe it took effect, for that the other party might in revenge ſhed a great deal of Blood, and immediately proclaim the Princeſs of *Orange*, which would overthrow the whole Deſign. To which he anſwered me that care would be taken about it and that the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs and moſt of the Lieutenancy ſhould be ſecured. But when this Examinant deſired to know what perſons were to be concerned, he bad this Examinant ask no queſtions, for things would be managed well, as he ſaid; and that if *London* was ſecured, all *England* would fall in.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That when this Examinant asked the ſaid *Ferguſon* whether any Declaration was prepared to be publiſhed upon ſuch occaſion? he told this Examinant that it had been conſidered of and was ready, and would be printed ready to be diſperſed: but when this Examinant asked him how it ſhould be done, he anſwered it was aſſuredly ſo, but this Examinant muſt ask no queſtions.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That before this Examinant beſpake the Arms mentioned in his former Examinations, the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that he would give this Examinant mony to pay for them, for he had five or ſix hundred pounds at Command, but he paid not the money to this Examinant till about three weeks or a month ſince and then paid it this Examinant in ninety three Guineys, but would not tell this Examinant of whom he had the ſaid money. And this Examinant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that the *Scots* intended to make ſome Inſurrection in *Scotland* this Summer, but were not well able to do ſo without the aſſiſtance of ten thouſand pounds or ſome other great ſum to buy Arms for them, which he had hopes of getting for them and that they expected, and he hoped they would be ſeconded by a party in *England* both in *London* and in the Northern and Weſtern parts. And when this Examinant asked him what perſons of Note would engage in it and what method they would uſe; He anſwered, *Firſt let us ſound our ſtrength and if there be encouragement from that, you will not want men of Quality to take their Poſt, but you muſt excuſe me from naming of them till there be occaſion.* And this Examinant further ſaith, that though he frequently enquired whether any money had been paid to the *Scots*, he could not certainly be informed that any money had been paid.

And further ſaith this Examinant, that the Arms in his former Examinations particularly mentioned were directed by the Company then preſent to be beſpoken.

And

And further this Examinant ſaith, That he hath been often in company with Mr. *Edward Norton* of *Dorſetſhire*, as this Examinant doth believe, with *Nathaniel Wade* a Barriſter at Law and *Francis Goodenough* an Attorney at Law, at the Caſtle-Tavern in *Fleetſtreet*, and at the Green Dragon Tavern upon *Snow-hill*; where ſome Diſcourſes were held concerning an Inſurrection in *Scotland* and of one in *England*, if there ſhould be occaſion or be thought requiſite; at which time the ſaid Parties laſt mentioned, declared they would not be wanting to act their parts therein. And this Examinant further ſaith not.

Robert Weſt.

24° Junii *Cap. & recognit. coram me*

L. JENKINS.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt, *taken by my Lord Keeper the* 25th June, 1683.

THis Examinant further ſaith, That *Robert Ferguſon* in his two former Examinations named, told and ſent this Examinant word by a Note, That if this Examinant would ſend to Major *John Wildman* (commonly ſo called) he would pay a hundred pounds for the Arms in this Examinants farther Examinations mentioned to be bought by this Examinant; and this Examinant not being willing to ſpeak with the ſaid *Wildman* himſelf, ſent *Richard Rumbald* to receive the money; but the ſaid *Wildman* was gone out of Town before the ſaid *Rumbald* did call at his houſe. And this Examinant further ſaith, That upon ſome diſcourſe at one of the Meetings in his former Examinations mentioned, it was propoſed, whether ſome of the chief Miniſters of State, particularly the Lord Keeper, the Lord Marqueſs of *Hallifax*, and the Earl of *Rocheſter* that now is, ſhould be killed and it was agreed that it was very neceſſary they ſhould be killed; but no particular perſons were appointed to do it, as this Examinant remembers, it being thought almoſt impoſſible for any of the ſaid Miniſters to eſcape. And further, this Examinant ſaith not.

Robert Weſt.

25° Junii 1683.
Cap. & recognit. coram me

Fr. North, *C. S.*

The

The further Examination of Robert West *of the* Middle-Temple, *Barriſter at Law, taken before Mr. Secretary* Jenkins *the* 26th *of* June 1683.

THis Examinant further ſaith, That ſome time in the laſt Spring, and to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, whilſt the King was at *Newmarket*, *Francis Shute*, late deceas'd, came to this Examinant with a Meſſage from the Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrick*, as he told this Examinant, to this effect, *viz.* That the Lord *Howard* had a Project for raiſing a Body of Men to make an Inſurrection and deſired this Examinants concurrence and aſſiſtance in it; and ſhortly after, the Lord *Howard* and Mr. *Shute* came to this Examinants Chamber in the *Temple*, where the Lord *Howard* told this Examinant, That except ſome Effort were made by the People towards ſaving their Liberties and Religion, all would be loſt; or uſed words to that effect. And this Examinant telling his Lordſhip that he ſaw no way of doing ſo, that did not endanger the People more in caſe of a miſcarriage, his Lordſhip told this Deponent, he had thought of a method feaſible in his opinion, and it was this, to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, *viz.* That ten men of Skill and Conduct in Martial Affairs, ſhould meet and each chuſe to himſelf ten men whom he might uſe, that every of theſe ten ſhould raiſe 20 men, ſo as to make up a Body of two thouſand men: that empty Houſes ſhould be taken for theſe men, as near the ſeveral Gates of the City and other convenient Poſts, as could be: that the night before the Execution intended, the Men ſhould be got into thoſe Houſes, and acquainted with the Execution; ſuch as refuſed ſhould be clapt into the Cellars, and the reſt ſally out at the moſt convenient hour, and ſeize and ſhut up the Gates, and then demand the Inhabitants Arms; and he doubted not but they would deliver them and People enough come into aſſiſtance. His Lordſhip named Col. *Rumzey*, Col. *Danvers*, Mr. *Clare* and three others whom this Examinant hath forgotten, for ſix of the principal ten, and deſired this Examinant to ſpeak to them to conſider of the Project and fill up the number of ten; but this Examinant having no mind to engage in it onely told Col. *Rumzey* of it and none other of the Parties above-named, who told this Examinant he would not meddle in it, and adviſed this Examinant to proceed no further; and when the ſaid Lord *Howard* came to this Examinant for an Anſwer, this Examinant told his Lordſhip, that he could meet with no encouragement; whereupon his Lordſhip replied he could make as good a ſhift as other men, and he would trouble himſelf no further and came not ſince to this Examinant.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That the ſaid Lord *Howard* at another time told this Examinant at a Tavern in the City, That he thought it no difficulty with 500 Horſe to ſurprize the King, Duke and all the Court at *Newmarket*, by beating up their Quarters about break of day; but this Examinant told the ſaid Lord *Howard* it was impoſſible to get ſuch a Body to ſo great a diſtance unobſerved, at which his Lordſhip ſeem'd convinc'd.

And

And this Deponent further ſaith, That the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that the Arms to be bought with the ſaid 10000 *l.* lay ready provided in *Holland* to be Tranſported for *Scotland*, and that the Earl of *Argyle* would go over with them and Head the *Scots* in Perſon; and that one Engliſh Lord offered to pay the whole 10000 *l.* by Mortgaging his Eſtate, if the reſt of the Managers would have ſecured him their Proportions. But he ſhould not name the Lord's Name then but ſince the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant it was the Lord *Grey*. And further this Examinant ſaith not.

26. Junii 83. Capt. & Cognit. Coram me

L. Jenkins.

Robert Weſt.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle Temple, *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant ſaith, That he was informed by Mr. *Ferguſon*, and to the beſt of his remembrance, by Col. *Romzey* likewiſe, that the late Earl of *Shaftsbury* adviſed the Duke of *Monmouth* when he went into *Cheſhire* in *September* laſt, that if his Grace were attended with a good appearance of Gentlemen and Freeholders there, his Grace ſhould ſet up and declare for a Free Parliament. And that when his Grace was taken into Cuſtody by a Meſſenger, the ſaid Earl of *Shaftsbury* adviſed that the ſaid Meſſenger ſhould be killed and his Grace return into *Cheſhire* and declare as above or elſe Poſt into the Weſt of *England* and ſet up there. But his Grace, and the Lord *Grey* of *Wark*, were of another opinion, *viz.* That his Grace ſhould Surrender himſelf which his Grace did accordingly.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That ſince the Inſurrection intended in *November* laſt was laid aſide, this Examinant was informed by Col. *Romzey*, that one great reaſon of its being laid aſide, was, that one Mr. *John Trenchard* on whom there was a great Reliance for a conſiderable Body of Men in the Weſt, *viz.* at *Taunton*, would not undertake to procure ſuch a Body, for which he was much reproached by the Lord *Grey*.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That ſome time before Mr. *Ferguſon* went over into *Holland*, the ſaid *Ferguſon*, this Examinant and one Mr. *John Roe* late Sword-Bearer of *Briſtol* were together at the Young Devil Tavern in *Fleet-Street*, where ſome diſcourſe was had concerning the killing the King and Duke of *York* and of a general Inſurrection; but this Examinant cannot remember any particular paſſages of that Diſcourſe.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That after the ſaid *Ferguſon* went for *Holland*, *viz.* about *Chriſtmas* laſt Col. *Romzey*, this Examinant, *Richard Goodenough* and the ſaid *Roe*, ſeveral times met and diſcourſed concerning the ſaid Deſign againſt the King and Duke, as alſo of a general Inſurrection, which they diſtinguiſhed by the names of the *Lopping Point*, and *General Point*: One of which Meetings, to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, was at this Examinants Chamber in the *Temple*, where were preſent beſides Col. *Romzey*, this Examinant, the ſaid *Goodenough* and *Roe*, Mr. *Joſeph Tyley*, Mr. *Edward Norton*, and Mr. *Richard Nelthrop*. And the ſaid Mr. *Nelthrop* approved of an Inſurrection, but always expreſſed a Deteſtation of the Deſign to kill the King and Duke, as a baſe ungenerous thing: But the ſaid *Roe* declared, he would be one to execute it rather than it ſhould fail to be done.

And this Examinant ſaith, That at ſome or all of thoſe Meetings it was diſcourſed in what place, and in what manner the ſaid Deſign againſt the King and Duke ſhould be put in Execution; and it was propoſed to be done either in the Playhouſe, by planting Men in the Pit about the King's Box, armed with Piſtols and Pocket-Blunderbuſſes, who between the Acts of the Play ſhould make the Aſſault, or in their return from the Playhouſe by night under *Bedford* Garden Wall; becauſe of the convenience for one part of the Aſſailants walking unſuſpected in the *Piaza* and another walking ſo in the Square within the Rails, and another being about the Church Porch, who upon the firſt Aſſault might prevent Aſſiſtance to the King out of *Covent-Garden*: Or elſe it might be done as the King and Duke were paſſing down the River in a Barge, either by overrunning their Barge with a Hoy, or elſe Boarding their Barge, and ſhooting a Plank or two out of the bottom with Blunderbuſſes, and ſo to ſink it; but both theſe ways were looked upon as very hazardous and probable to miſcarry, and therefore neither was agreed on.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That in the laſt *Chriſtmas* Holy-days, Col. *Romzey* invited this Examinant, and ſeveral others to Dinner at his Houſe in *Kings-Square* in *Sohoe-Fields*, where Dined this Examinant, Mr. *Richard Goodenough*, Mr. *Francis Goodenough*, Mr. *Roe*, Mr. *Blaney*, and to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, Mr. *Joſeph Tyley*, and ſome diſcourſe was then had of the ſaid Deſign againſt the King and Duke, and of a general Inſurrection, which this Examinant propoſed to them being Lawyers to call and diſtinguiſh them in this manner; The deſign of killing the King and the Duke, *Executing a Bargain and Sale*, which was a ſhort manner of Conveyance; And the general Inſurrection, *By the Executing a Leaſe and Releaſe* which is a longer Conveyance, which Diſtinction was received, and often afterwards made uſe of; but the ſame *Blaney* was never afterward, as this Examinant remembers, at any other Meeting.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That ſome ſhort time after *Chriſtmas* laſt, this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, Mr. *Walcot*, and Mr. *Rumbold* met at the Salutation Tavern in *Lumbard-ſtreet*, where it was Diſcourſed, that ſome Preparations ought to be made againſt the time, that either the ſaid Deſign againſt the King and Duke, or a general Inſurrection ſhould be put in Execution: And it was agreed,

greed, that *Ferguſon* ſhould be ſent for Home, and that *Ludlow* ſhould be ſent for if it could be, and that Blank Commiſſions ſhould be drawn up for Officers both Civil and Military and a Model of Government; but there was ſome doubt in whoſe names thoſe Commiſſions ſhould run, and at laſt it was propoſed (but this Examinant does not remember by whom) that they ſhould run in the name of the Confederate Lords and Commons of *England*. After which Meeting, this Examinant and Col. *Romzey* went the ſame night, to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance or ſoon after to a Coffee-Houſe in *Popes-head Alley*, to enquire for one Mr. *Thomas Shepard* a Merchant, for directions how to ſend to Mr. *Ferguſon* then in *Holland*, and there found Mr. *Shepard*. And this Examinant, by the conſent of the ſaid Col. *Romzey*, wrote a ſort of Canting Letter to *Ferguſon*, to invite him over for his Health, but there was no particular Buſineſs in the ſaid Letter; and the ſaid Mr. *Shepard* ſent it: But Mr. *Ludlow* was never ſent for, nor any Commiſſions prepared, nor any frame of Government drawn up to this Examinants knowledg, or as he ever heard of.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about *Chriſtmas* laſt he was informed, to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, by Col. *Romzey*, that a deſign for a general Inſurrection was carrying on, and was managed by a Cabal or Council, and that the ſaid Cabal differed amongſt themſelves, and the Buſineſs was like to be at a ſtand; but the Perſons of that Cabal, the ſaid Col. *Romzey*, did not then give this Examinant any account of: But the ſaid Col. *Romzey*, this Examinant and *Nathaniel Wade* agreed to draw up ſome few Fundamentals, which they thought reaſonable and the ſaid Col. *Romzey* to preſent the ſame to the Lord *Ruſſel*, for him to preſent to the Managers or the Duke of *Monmouth*, which they did accordingly, but the ſame were rejected, as the ſaid Col. *Romzey* told this Examinant, and this Examinant hath no Copy of them.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about *Hillary Term* laſt, this Examinant was informed by Mr. *Joſeph Tyley*, and ſince by *James Holloway* of *Briſtol*, that there was a conſiderable Party in *Briſtol*, well provided for, and almoſt impatient for Action, and had laid a rational Deſign, if they could be ſeconded in other Places.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That he was informed by Mr. *Richard Nelthrop*, that Col. *Sidney* had ſent *Aaron Smith* into *Scotland*, with Letters to Sir *George Cambel*, and Sir *John Cockran*, or one of them, upon pretence of a Purchaſe of Land in *Carolina*, but in truth, to get them up to *London*, in order to ſettle Matters for a Riſing, or uſed words to that effect; and that the ſaid Col. *Sidney* gave the ſaid *Aaron Smith* Fourſcore Guinnies, or ſome ſuch Sum for his Charges: And Mr. *Ferguſon* hath ſince told this Examinant, that the ſaid *Aaron Smith* behaved himſelf very indiſcreetly in the ſaid Journey, and run a hazard of diſcovering the Deſign.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Ferguſon* often told this Examinant, that it was agreed between ſeveral *Scots* and ſeveral Perſons of Quality here in *England*, that the *Scots* ſhould have 10000 *l.* from hence to buy Arms, and then ſhould Riſe in *Scotland*, and be ſeconded here by an Inſurrection in *England*; or if the *Engliſh* would help the *Scots* to 30000 *l.* they would attempt a

Riſing

Riſing in *Scotland*, without being ſeconded in, or further aſſiſted from *England*. And that the 10000 *l.* was to be paid this day and that day, but at length the 10000 *l.* ſunk to 5000 *l.* but the *Scots* were reſolved to Riſe though they had nothing but their Claws to fight with, rather than endure what they did. And about three Weeks or a Month ſince, the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that Col. *Sidney* and Major *Wildman* had uſed the *Scots* ill and broken with them after making them attend two Months; and the reaſon they broke upon was, That the *Scots* would not agree to declare for a Commonwealth and the extirpation of the Monarchy, but that the ſaid *Ferguſon* had hopes of raiſing the Money otherwiſe, but would not tell this Examinant how; neither could this Examinant ever be certainly informed, whether any part of the ſaid Money has been paid to the *Scots*. And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *John Roe* hath told this Examinant, that he the ſaid *Roe* was acquainted with ſome Scotchmen here in *London*, who informed him that there were 2000 or 3000 *Scots* (many of them *Bothwel-Bridg* Men) who were Journey-men and Pedlers in and about *England*, and were under the order and management of ten or twelve Scotchmen in *London*, who could in a Month or ſix Weeks time draw in all up to *London*; and that the Earl of *Shaftsbury* had a great command of theſe Men.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about three Months ſince or thereabouts, this Examinant being upon the Exchange, met with Major *Wildman*, who told this Examinant for News that the Marqueſs of *Huntly* and Earl of *Dowglas*, two eminent Papiſts, were reported to be made General of the Forces, and Governour of *Sterling* Caſtle in *Scotland* and that a Reſumption or Repurchaſe of the Abby Lands was going to be made there. Whereupon this Examinant told the ſaid Major *Wildman*, That he this Examinant had a Plantation in *America* where the Churchmen never had Footing, and would go thither if he was driven from hence. To which the ſaid Major *Wildman* replied, Keep here, and don't talk of being driven out, drive them out hence. And this Examinant ſaying, He did not ſee how that could be done: The ſaid Major *Wildman* returned, It may be done, and muſt be done, and ſhall be done; or uſed words to that effect.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Rumbold* told this Examinant not long ſince, that Major *Wildman* had ſhewed him a Paper in the nature of a Declaration or Remonſtrance, which he intended to have Printed and Diſperſed among the People at the time of the intended Inſurrection; and that he the ſaid *Wildman* had formerly encouraged the ſaid *Rumbold* in the attempt upon the King and Duke in their way to or from *Newmarket*, but afterward ſeemed to diſcourage him.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That after the Fire happened at *Newmarket*, and this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, *Walcot*, *Ferguſon*, *Rumbold*, and *Richard Goodenough* had met twice, and reſolved to let making any Attempt upon the King and Duke alone. The ſaid *Ferguſon* on Saturday or Sunday before the King's return, borrowed forty Gunies of Col. *Romzey*, as the ſaid Col. *Romzey* and *Ferguſon* have ſince told this Examinant, in order to ſet the ſame on work, but did nothing in it; and hath ſince repaid 30 Guinnies, if not the whole 40 Guinnies to the ſaid Col. *Romzey*.

And

And this Examinant further ſaith, That after the Kings return from *Newmarket*, the ſaid Col. *Romzey*, this Examinant, *Ferguſon*, *Rumbald*, *Goodenough*, and *Walcot*, as this Examinant believes, met at the *George* and *Vulture* Tavern on *Ludgate-Hill*, where the Arms in this Examinants former Examinations mentioned and the Sorts and Sizes thereof were agreed upon: And the ſaid *Ferguſon* told the Company that one was employed to ſee for ſome Convenience between *Hampton-Court* and *Windſor*, to make the Attempt upon the King and Duke, but he never made any Report of the Meſſage, though he was preſſed to it by this Examinant and others, being then wholly intent, as this Examinant perceived, upon Managing the Scotch Inſurrection.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That ſoon afterward there were ſeveral Meetings between all or moſt of the Parties abovementioned, at the *Caſtle* Tavern in *Fleetſtreet*, and *Green Dragon* Tavern on *Snow-Hill*; but this Examinant doth not remember any particular Diſcourſe at any of the ſaid Meetings, other than concerning the Progreſs of the Scotch preparation towards an Inſurrection.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That there was ſince propoſed making an Attempt upon the King and Duke in their return from the Dukes Play-Houſe in the narrow part of the Street, but the ſame was wholly rejected and this Examinant never heard of any Attempt deſigned to be made upon the King and Duke at a Bull-Feaſt, nor never heard that a Bull-Feaſt was to be had till about Ten or Eleven days ſince.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that the Inſurrection in *England* intended to ſecond that in *Scotland* would be in this manner, *viz.* That one Party ſhould be up in the Weſt, at *Briſtol*, *Taunton* and thereabout, another in *Yorkſhire* at *York*, another in *Cheſhire* at *Cheſter*, and if it could be done, another in *Devonſhire* at *Exeter*, in every of which places ſome Perſons of Quality would appear, but named them not, and that the main Puſh was deſigned at *London*, and was ordered thus, *viz.* That ſeveral parties ſhould at once Attack the *Tower*, the Guards and the *Exchange*, the *Mews*, the *Savoy* and *White-Hall*, and one at *Weſtminſter* ſhould fall upon the Back of *White-Hall*, that a Party of Horſe ſhould be laid at *Staines* Bridg to way-lay the King and Duke, if they went towards *Windſor*, and another Party of Horſe to way-lay them in their Road to *Portſmouth* if they went thither; that the Mayor and Sheriffs ſhould be ſeized but the Deſign was not to be Communicated till it was ripe for Action and added, that he hoped the Duke of *Monmouth* and Lord *Ruſſel* might be prevailed with to appear in *London*.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That after the *Scots* were diſappointed of the Money promiſed to them the ſaid *Ferguſon* would have had this Examinant to have met and diſcourſed with Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, but this Examinant refuſed to do ſo; and he once asked this Examinant to wait upon the Duke of *Monmouth* but this Examinant refuſed that alſo.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That though the ſaid *Ferguſon* was ſhie of naming Perſons of Quality to this Examinant yet he always believed he meant the Duke of *Monmouth*, Lord *Ruſſel*, Lord *Grey*, Col. *Sidney*, Mr. *Charleton*, Major *Wildman* and others, but

this Examinant never Diſcourſed with any of them himſelf. And Col. *Romzey* about two or three Months ſince to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance told this Examinant that the Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrik*, Col. *Sidney*, Mr. *Hampden* Junior, Major *Wildman* and others whom this Examinant hath forgotten were Managers of the Deſign.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That *Richard Rumbald* was commonly called *Hanibal* by reaſon of his having but one Eye, and that it was uſual at the Meetings abovementioned to Drink a Health to *Hanibal* and his Boys and this Examinant believes the Ninety three Guinnies in this Examinants former Examination mentioned to be paid to him by the ſaid *Ferguſon* for the Arms were given to him by Mr. *Charleton*, for that the ſaid *Ferguſon* had before told this Examinant, that he ſhould have the ſaid Money when Mr. *Charleton* came to Town, and when the ſaid *Ferguſon* paid the ſaid Guinnies to this Examinant he told him he had not had them in his Cuſtody above half an Hour, and this Examinant met the ſaid *Charleton* going from him when this Examinant came to him.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about five Weeks ſince after the ſaid Treaty with the *Scots* ſeemed to be broken off, this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, Mr. *Walcot*, Mr. *Wade*, Mr. *Norton*, *Richard Goodenough* and *James Holloway*, met at the Young Devil Tavern between the two *Temple Gates*, where it was agreed to divide the City into ſeveral Parts and to give the ſeveral parts to ſeveral Perſons to examine what Force might be Raiſed in every one of them, and if 3000 Men could be Raiſed for the firſt Onſet it was thought ſufficient encouragement to venture upon an Inſurrection, and it was not doubted but 20000 Men would fall in if the firſt Onſet had any ſucceſs; and in order to this a large Map of the City and Suburbs was bought and hung up in this Examinants Chamber, where Mr. *Wade*, *Holloway* and *Francis Goodenough* divided the City and Subburbs into Twenty Diviſions, which were to be Managed thus: One principal Man in each Diviſion ſhould employ Fourteen or Fifteen under him and give them their particular Walks, ſo that they might not interfere one with another and be deceived in their Numbers. Theſe were to provide Ten Men a-piece at leaſt, ſo that 150 Men in each Diviſion would make 3000 out of the Twenty Diviſions and what was over might be kept for a Reſerve, but there was no particular Method as this Examinant remembers agreed upon to uſe theſe Men, but was deferred till the Number was certain, after which Diviſion ſo made the ſaid *Richard Goodenough* by reaſon of his general Acquaintance undertook to find out Men to act accordingly, and ſome ſhort time after the ſaid Parties abovementioned met at the *Green Dragon* Tavern, where the ſaid *Goodenough* declared he had employed ſeveral Perſons from whom he hoped to have a good account in a little time, and the next Week after the ſaid Parties abovementioned and one Mr. *Zachary Bourn* a Brewer whom the ſaid *Goodenough* had employed in it, met at the Salutation Tavern in *Lumbard-ſtreet*, but this Examinant came not thither till the Company juſt broke up, and did not hear what paſſed there; And about a Week after the ſame Parties except *Holloway* (who was gone to *Briſtol*) met again at the *Green Dragon* Tavern on *Snow-Hill*, where the ſaid *Goodenough* reported that he had an account

account of 1300 Men out of two of the Hamlets, and that *Southwark* would yield more and *Spittle-Fields* a great Number but had no particular account of other places.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about three Weeks ſince *Richard Rumbald* told this Examinant that he ſuſpected Mr. *Keeling* had diſcovered all the Deſigns, as well that of the intended Aſſaſſination from *Newmarket* as the other Deſign then on foot and that if he were ſure of it he would take care to get him knock'd on the Head but was unwilling to do ſo till he were fully ſatisfied and about a Fortnight ſince the ſaid *Rumbald* told this Examinant that he had ſeveral reaſons to Convince him that the ſaid *Keeling* had made a Diſcovery, and but that he made ſo many Proteſtations and Imprecations to the contrary he would kill him. And this Examinant hath heard from Mr. *William Rumbald*, that he lent the ſaid *Keeling* an Hundred Pounds on Saturday was Sevenight laſt leaſt the ſaid *Keeling* ſhould be tempted by want of Money, which he then pretended to labour under. And on Monday was Sevenight laſt this Examinant was informed by the ſaid Mr. *William Rumbold* that the ſaid *Keeling* was with Perſons that Afternoon, ſome of whom he believed would have killed the ſaid *Keeling* if he had not deceived them by many Imprecations that he had made no Diſcovery. And this Examinant further ſaith, that this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, Mr. *Wade*, Mr. *Nelthrop*, *Goodenough* and *Norton* had notice on Sunday was Sevenight laſt, by means of the ſaid *Keeling*'s Brother that the ſaid *Keeling* had made a Diſcovery, and thereupon they reſolved to meet early the next Morning in order to their Eſcapes and according to their appointment met in *Goodmans-Fields*, where they endeavoured to Hire a Boat for *Holland*, whether all except this Examinant were reſolved to go, but by reaſon they could not get clear of *Graveſend* before five or ſix a Clock on Tueſday Night, and ſo might be taken, they laid aſide that Deſign and every one ſhifted for himſelf.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That when this Examinant was much dejected, and refuſed to go for *Holland*, moſt of the Company and particularly Col. *Romzey* looked wiſtfully in this Examinant's Face, as if they ſuſpected Treachery in this Examinant. Whereupon this Examinant told the ſaid Col. *Romzey*, this Examinant if he were taken, would not ſave his Life unjuſtly, and inſtanced that he had never ſpoke with the Duke of *Monmouth* and could ſay nothing againſt him and would not do Injuſtice to the Colonel but rather give his Right-hand to ſerve him; which Complement the Colonel returned and ſo parted and there was no agreement between all or any the Parties abovenamed to favour one another and further this Examinant ſaith not.

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The further Examination of Robert West *of the* Middle Temple *Barriſter at Law before the Lord Keeper the* 27 June 1683.

THis Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Richard Rumbald* and a party of his Friends about ten Years ſince deſigned and were prepared to have kill'd the King and Duke of *York* in their Journey to or from *Newmarket* and lay in Ambuſh for that end, but the King and Duke went an unuſual Road through the Foreſt that time, which they never went before or ſince, and ſo eſcaped them, and the ſaid *Rumbold* alſo told this Examinant that he once had a mind to have taken one of the Cellars under the Duke's Play-Houſe, and by placing Barrels of Powder there have Blown up the Play-Houſe when the King and Duke were there; but the conſideration that a great number of other innocent People muſt have periſhed in it diverted him from it, though a Friend to whom he communicated the Deſign endeavoured to overrule that objection by ſaying, *What have the Jack-Daws to do amongſt the Rooks?*

And this Examinant further ſaith, That at ſome Meeting before or about *Chriſtmas* laſt there was a Diſcourſe concerning Surprizing ſome Garriſons in caſe of an Inſurrection and it was propoſed for *Portſmouth*, that ſome Gentlemen ſhould go into the Town and Treat the Officers of the Garriſon who in that bad Air were apt to accept of an Invitation and Drink plentifully, and that in the height of their Drinking a party of Men who might be brought into Town on a Market-day in Country-mens Habits ſhould Surprize the Guards, who likewiſe to that end ſhould be Treated and it was thought the Townſmen who were uneaſie under the Inſolencies of the Garriſon would be apt to cloſe in and aſſiſt in the Enterprize. *Pendenis* Caſtle was alſo mentioned as a place naked and eaſily ſeized and that might be of great uſe: And this Examinant doth not remember any thing ſaid about *Hull*, but Mr. *Ferguſon* lately told this Examinant, that he had good aſſurance of having *Newcaſtle*.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That after the intended Inſurrection in *November* laſt was laid aſide, *Ferguſon* to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance told this Examinant that the Lord *Shaftsbury* had ſent Mr. *Walcot* to Sir *William Courtney* in *Devonſhire*, to engage him in an Inſurrection and to joyn with ſome Perſon of Quality if it ſhould be thought fit to ſend one thither, but Mr. *Walcot* returned without any incouragement from Sir *William Courtney*: And though this Examinant knew that the ſaid Mr. *Walcot* took a Journey into *Devonſhire*, yet the ſaid Mr. *Walcot* kept the buſineſs of it cloſe from this Examinant and would own only making a viſit to a Friend.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That the Places uſually reſolved on for places of Rendezvous in caſe of an Inſurrection in *London*, were Saint *James-Square*, *Covent-Garden*, *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*,

Fields, *Smithfield*, the *Royal Exchange*, Saint *Georges Fields*, in *Southwark*, *Goodmans-Fields*, *Spittle-Fields* and *Moor-Fields*, where the Arms in the Artillery Ground were to be Seized.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Roe* told this Examinant that he had Diſcourſed with one Mr. *Hicks* a Tobacconiſt an Anabaptiſt Preacher a great Ringleader of the Anabaptiſts, and that the ſaid *Hicks* had told him that the Anabaptiſts could, and he believed upon a good conſideration would make up an Army of 20000 Men and 1500 of the 20000 would be Horſe, and though perhaps there would be a neceſſity of making uſe of ſome great Men at the beginning (and this Examinant thinks he mentioned the Duke of *Monmouth*) yet when the Anabaptiſts were once up, they would not lay down their Arms till they had their own terms.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That to the beſt of his remembrance he was informed by Colonel *Romzey*, that the Managers of the general Inſurrection had one or more Meetings at the Houſe of Mr. *Thomas Shepard* Merchant in *Abchurch-Lane* or St. *Clements-Lane* in *Lumbard-ſtreet London* and that if the Money were paid to the *Scots* the ſaid Mr. *Shepard* was to return it into *Holland*, and this Examinant to the beſt of his remembrance, once or twice asked Mr. *Shepard* whether any Money were paid, who anſwered it was promiſed ſeveral times but he had not any aſſurance of its being paid. And this Examinant believes the ſaid Mr. *Shepard* did know of the intended Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke but doth not remember that this Examinant had any particular Diſcourſe with the ſaid Mr. *Shepard* about it, the ſaid *Shepard* having failed to meet this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, and others ſeveral times when he had promiſed to do ſo.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Ferguſon* to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance told this Examinant ſince the King went to *Windſor* that there had been ſome thoughts of Surprizing *Windſor* with 500 Horſe, but upon conſideration it ſeemed impracticable, but he named no Perſons to this Examinant.

And the ſaid *Ferguſon* deſired this Examinant to ſpeak to Mr. *Richard Goodenough* to meet Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* which this Examinant did, and this Examinant believes the ſaid *Goodenough* and Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* have had ſeveral Meetings and the ſaid *Goodenough* hath Communicated to Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* the deſign laſt carrying on for Raiſing 3000 Men out of the Twenty Diviſions of the City and Suburbs, and the Progreſs that was made in it.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That at one of the Meetings concerning the laſt mentioned Deſign Mr. *Richard Goodenough* Reported one Man (but would not name him) would undertake to bring 1000 Men out of the Hamlets and if occaſion were to give ſatisfaction he would ſhew them all a Footbal Match or other Paſtime, but the ſaid *Goodenough* reported withal that he found moſt Perſons inſiſt upon terms and required to know what eaſe and advantage they ſhould have in matters of Religion, their Liberties and Properties, and what aſſurance they ſhould have of their being performed before they would actually engage in Arms, for they would not Fight to change Perſons only, but Things; But whether any thing was done in order to give them ſuch ſatisfaction this Examinant knows not.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That the fundamentals in this Examinants laſt Examination mentioned to be prepared by Mr. *Wade*, Col. *Romzey* and this Examinant were only rough drawn up by the ſaid Mr. *Wade*'s own Hand and this Examinant did not write them, nor had any Copy of them becauſe if they had been approved of, it was intended to have drawn them into form and therefore this Examinant cannot ſet them forth Exactly, but to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance the ſubſtance of them was to the effect following.

1. That the People ſhould annually meet at a certain time to Chooſe Members of Parliament without any Writ or particular Direction to do ſo.

2. That the Parliament ſhould Meet at and Sit for a ſtated time and not be Diſſolved Prorogued or Adjourned but by their own Conſent and that no Prorogation or Adjournment ſhould hinder their Meeting before the day to which they were Prorogued or Adjourned, if there were occaſion.

3. That the Parliament ſhould conſiſt of a Houſe of Lords and a Houſe of Commons, but the exact number of both or either of them, this Examinant doth not remember.

4. That only ſuch Nobility ſhould be Hereditary as were aſſiſting in this Deſign, the reſt ſhould be only for Life, and upon their Death the Houſe of Lords be ſupplied from time to time with new ones out of the Houſe of Commons but whether by the Election of the Lords or of the Prince this Examinant doth not remember.

5. The Militia ſhould be in the Parliament and the Parliament have the Nomination if not the Election of all Judges, Sheriffs, Juſtices of Peace, and other greater or leſſer Officers Civil or Military.

6. That what Acts paſſed in both Houſes ſhould be a Law for one Year without the Prince's Conſent, and what Acts paſſed both Houſes in two ſeveral Parliaments ſhould be a Perpetual Law without his Conſent.

7. That a Council to the Prince ſhould be Elected out of the Parliament, a certain Number of the Lords to be Elected by the Commons and a certain Number of the Commons to be Elected by the Lords, but the Number of the Council, or of either Lords or Commons to be of it this Examinant doth not remember.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That before the ſaid *Ferguſon* went for *Holland* this Examinant preſſing him to know whether the Duke of *Monmouth* were acquainted with the Deſign againſt the King and Duke, and would not Hang all Perſons concerned in it if it ſucceeded, the ſaid *Ferguſon* ſaid *What if I get it under his Hand that he ſhall not?* To which this Examinant anſwered it would be ſufficient ſatisfaction but when the ſaid *Ferguſon* returned from *Holland*, and this Examinant preſſed him again to have Security fit to be relied on, he asked this Examinant *Whether that were fit to be propoſed to the Duke?* And this Examinant ſaying If he durſt not propoſe it he thought other Men ought not to venture upon it: Whereupon the ſaid *Ferguſon* ſaid that he had mentioned ſomething concerning the King to the Duke of *Monmouth*, but not Aſſaſſinating him, to which the Duke anſwered ſomewhat ſternly, You muſt look upon me in the Capacity of a Son; Which anſwer for ſome time dampt

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the Deſign and always clog'd it: But at length it was reſolved, that if the Duke did proſecute the Actors in it, that the Duke himſelf ſhould be killed if it could be done; And this Examinant believes Col. *Romzey* was preſent at or made acquainted by this Examinant with the ſaid Diſcourſe.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That the ſaid *Ferguſon* to the beſt of his remembrance, told this Examinant that ſome thoughts had been formerly of making an Attempt upon the King and Duke the laſt Lord Mayors Day either going out of the Coach into *Guild Hall*, or in the Hall at Dinner (which might be done with Men with Swords only) or in their return from thence at *Ludgate* or *Pauls-Church-Yard*, but for the great hazards in either of theſe ways nothing was reſolved on.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That this Examinant perceiving that little or no preparations were made for the laſt Deſigned Attempt in the *Newmarket* Journey told the ſaid *Ferguſon* of it, to which the ſaid *Ferguſon* anſwered, That he ſhould have a Sum of Money for it when things were fixt, but not elſe, for a Sum had been Depoſited in a Mans hand (but named not whoſe) for the former deſigned Attempt in the *October* Journey, and though it was not made uſe of it was not returned and there was no asking for ſuch Money again. And this Examinant further ſaith, That at one of the Meetings concerning the Attempt upon the King and Duke this Examinant propoſed to the ſaid *Ferguſon*, that ſome of the Duke of *Monmouths* Servants or Dependants ſhould be brought into the Action, which might be ſome ſecurity to the Perſons engaged, or at leaſt make the World think the Duke concerned in it, if he were not. But Mr. *Rumbald* did not care to engage with any of them, however this Examinant believes the ſaid Propoſal had been Communicated to ſome of them, for that this Examinant was told (to the beſt of his remembrance) either by Col. *Romzey* or Mr. *Ferguſon*, that Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* offered to engage if Col. *Romzey* would but the Colonel refuſed and that in caſe of a general Inſurrection Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* would the night before it attempt to kill the Duke of *York*, by going to him with a pretence to diſcover ſome Plot againſt him.

And this Examinant was informed by Mr. *John Roe* that one Mr. *Gibbons* who was or had been a Servant to the Duke of *Monmouth* met the ſaid *Roe* in *Covent-Garden* or carried him thither, and there told the ſaid *Roe* that was a Convenient place to do the Trick in (by which this Examinant underſtood the Attempt upon the King and Duke) and that he the ſaid *Gibbons* would engage to be one in it.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That about a fortnight before the Kings return from *Newmarket*, when the attempt was reſolved on to be made, Mr. *Ferguſon* told this Examinant, that the Duke of *Monmouth* and ſeveral Lords ſhould be invited into the City to a Dinner, the ſame day that the King was to return, ſo as they might be ready to appear in the City upon the Arrival of the News, and the ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant, that ſome preferment was deſigned for this Examinant, and deſired this Examinant to conſider and give him a Note of ſuch Lawyers as this Examinant thought

thought fit to be and would accept of being Judges, but this Examinant only ſmiled at his vanity and never gave the ſaid *Ferguſon* any ſuch account.

Robert Weſt.

27 Junii 1683. Capt. & recognit. Coram me

F. North, *C. S.*

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle-Temple, *Barriſter at Law.*

AND this Examinant further ſaith, That at one of the Meetings held for managing the buſineſs of the Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke in their *Newmarket* Journy, there was ſome Diſcourſe about getting the Arms down to Mr. *Rumbalds* Houſe, and the ſaid *Rumbald* firſt propoſed to put them up in long Cheſts, and ſend them down by ſome Empty Carts from *Smithfield*, and afterwards he thought to make uſe of two truſty Watermen of his acquaintance, who ſhould lay them in the Boat, and carry Oyſters over them (as ſometimes they uſed to carry Oyſters) up *Ware* River, and land them at, or near his own Houſe; or elſe every Man was to carry his own Arms, under long Coats: But no particular way was reſolved on, but ſuch was to be uſed, as ſhould appear moſt ſafe, and at the ſame or ſome other Meeting for the ſame purpoſe, it was diſcourſed how the Men ſhould get down unobſerved, and it was thought beſt that they ſhould go from *London* in the Evening, in ſmall numbers, ſo as to arrive at the place about Midnight and go into an empty Houſe near *Rumbald*'s own Houſe, where their Horſes ſhould be put into a Barn and be refreſhed, and *Rumbald* was to ſend away his Servants early to Market, and his Wife and Daughter he reſolved to Lock up above Stairs: But the greateſt difficulty was how theſe Men ſhould get off after the Buſineſs was done; the Road might be full and the party Cut off by ſome force that might come from *London*, and therefore *Rumbald* propoſed, that if he ſurviv'd the Action or were not diſabled in it, to bring them a back way over the Meadows, and over *Hackney-Marſh* (to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance) which he ſaid was a very good way, and all of it to be Galloped, and by that means they might get to *London* as ſoon as the news could. Or elſe the ſaid *Rombald* offered that the party ſhould retire into his own Yard, which was Walled in with a high Wall, and Moated round which he would undertake to defend againſt any Force that could aſſault them, and before night he thought all would be diſperſed and ſhifting for themſelves, and the Road be clear to *London*, but

but which Courſe he would take was left to his Diſcretion, as the Circumſtances of the Caſe ſhould require.

And this Examinant further ſaith that the ſeveral ways, propoſed to ſurprize and take the *Tower* of *London* were theſe to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, One was to ſend ten or twelve Men Armed with Piſtols, Pocket Daggers and Pocket Blunderbuſſes into the *Tower* under pretence of ſeeing the Armory, another number ſhould go to ſee the *Lyons*, who by reaſon of their not going into the Inner Gate were not to have their Swords taken from them, that the perſons who went to ſee the Armory ſhould return into the Tavern or Sutlers Houſe juſt within the Gate, and there Eat and Drink till the time for the Attempt was come, that ſome perſons ſhould come in a Mourning Coach or ſome Gentlemans Coach to be borrowed for this occaſion under pretence of making a viſit to ſome of the Lords in the *Tower*, and juſt within the Gate ſome of the perſons iſſuing out of the Tavern ſhould kill one of the Horſes, and overturn the Coach ſo as the Gate could not be ſhut, and the reſt of the perſons within, and thoſe who went to ſee the *Lyons* ſhould ſet upon the Guards, that upon a Signal of the Coach driving down, a party of Men (two or three Hundred or more if they could be got, and were to be lodged in empty Houſes to be hired for that purpoſe as near the *Tower* as could be had) ſhould be ready to ruſh out, and upon the noiſe of the firſt ſhot immediately run down to the Gate and break in, this way if at all put in Execution was to be in the day time about two a Clock, becauſe after dinner the Officers are uſually diſperſed or engaged in drinking, and the Soldiers loytering from their Arms.

Another way propoſed was that ſeveral Men ſhould enter Actions againſt one another in St. *Katherine's* Court held for the *Tower* Liberty within the *Tower*, and that at the Court day at which time great Liberty is allowed to all perſons to come in, a party of Men ſhould go as Plaintiffs and Defendants and Witneſſes, who joyned with ſome others who ſhould come in under pretence of Curioſity as abovementioned, ſhould attempt the ſurprize, and be ſeconded by the party from the hired Houſes, and to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance a Coach was likewiſe to be made uſe of in this Caſe, and at one of the late Meetings for carrying on the laſt Inſurrection, Mr. *Goodenough* reported, that an Engineer told the ſaid *Goodenough* that he would recommend ſome honeſt ſtout Fellows to be labourers and Workmen in the *Tower*, who ſhould be acquainted with the Deſign and ready to aſſiſt in it.

Another way propoſed was to ſurprize it by night, but that was full of difficulty and all that this Examinant remembers to have been propoſed was, that a parcel of Faggots ſhould be carried down to the Gate and fired, and to ſome other Part (this Examinant thinks the water Gate) if it were practicable, and a great quantity of Faggots ſhould be prepared to throw into the Ditch and to make up Works. That which moſt perplexed the buſineſs was, that to ſurprize the *Tower* by night was very difficult, and to begin an Inſurrection in the day time was as difficult and would loſe many advantages that the night or break of day would afford and therefore no reſolution was taken; Theſe were only the Debates of the

meetings of this Examinant and the other Perſons in his former Examination named, but this Examinant never heard what the Principal Managers conſidered of or reſolved on in the Caſe.

And this Examinant further ſaith that Mr. *Ferguſon* uſed to go by the name of *Roberts* and told this Examinant he was to go for *Holland* with or ſoon after the Bills for the Money to be paid to the *Scots*, and that the intention was to Land the Arms at *Edinburgh* Frith to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance.

And this Examinant further ſaith Mr. *William Rumbald* told this Examinant that after it was violently ſuſpected that Mr. *Keeling* had made a Diſcovery, but had denyed it, it was propoſed to Mr. *Keeling* for the ſatisfaction of his Friends that he ſhould go into the Country for ſome time (where it was eaſie to Kill him and Bury him privately.)

And this Examinant further ſaith That after it was certainly known that a Diſcovery was made, it was ſaid by Mr. *Wade* to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, that if a Thouſand Men could be got together, it were better to venture a puſh here or in the *Weſt* and die like Men than be hanged like Dogs: To which it was anſwered by Colonel *Romzey* as this Examinant believes, It is in vain to think of it, the Hearts of the People are down and our Great Men are good for nothing, or uſed expreſſions to that effect.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That on *Monday* was Sennight laſt Mr. *Ferguſon* perceiving this Examinant much dejected and Colonel *Romzey*, Mr. *Wade* Mr. *Norton*, *Goodenough* and *Nelthrop* in ſome Confuſion, laught and ſaid to them, Gentlemen you are Strangers to this kind of Exerciſe, I have been uſed to flie, I will never leave off as long as I live, and I hope to ſee ſome of you at *Dunbarr* before *Michaelmaſs* or to that effect.

Robert Weſt.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle Temple, *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant further ſaith That at ſome Meetings concerning a General Inſurrection it was diſcourſed that a Body of Five hundred Horſe would be neceſſary to ſcour the Streets to prevent the Kings Party from embodying and for Fighting the Horſe Guards, or for a Purſuit, and to that end it was propoſed that ſome endeavours ſhould be uſed to bring up a Party of Horſe from the Adjacent Counties and that ſome means ſhould be thought on to ſeize the Life-Guard Mens Horſes in their Quarters and the Citizens and Gentlemens Horſes in the Livery Stables and if there were ſucceſs and a great Body of Horſe ſhould be neceſſary, the great number of Hackney Coach Horſes in Town would make a good force. It was further propoſed

propoſed, that Baricadoes ſhould be made in ſeveral great Streets and ſeveral Churches be uſed for lodging the Men.

And this Examinant further ſaith That at ſome of the ſaid Meetings it was reported that the Kings Regiments of Foot had not their full Complement of men but wanted a great number, and that the Officers uſed to lend one another men when they went upon the Guard, and therefore the Foot were not ſo terrible as might be apprehended.

And this Examinant further ſaith That it was intended in the beginning of the general Inſurrection in the *Weſt* to ſend out a Party of Horſe to ſeize the Marqueſs of *Worceſter* now Duke of *Beaufort*, and his eldeſt Son, and another Party to ſeize the Biſhop of *Bath* and *Wells* and ſome other eminent Men of that Party if they were then in thoſe parts.

And this Examinant further ſaith That ſome time before *Chriſtmaſs* laſt he was informed by Mr. *Roe* to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance that the Country expected the City would have been in Arms on *Michaelmaſs Eve* when the preſent Sheriffs of *London* and *Middleſex* were Sworn, and that he was Credibly Informed that there were Five hundred Horſe in the Adjacent Counties ready to be marched to their Aſſiſtance upon the firſt notice and that they continued in a readineſs for two days expecting notice, but the Examinant doth not remember that he named any perſon from whom he had this Information.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That Mr. *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that ſome Nonconforming Miniſters had told him they ſuſpected he was driving on a Deſign to Aſſaſſinate the King and Duke and beg'd of him to deſiſt, for that it would bring a Reproach upon the Proteſtant Religion whatſoever the event might be, and that he was forced to aſſure them there was no ſuch thing intended, but alas, ſaid he, they are weak ſilly Men and not fit for theſe things who cannot diſtinguiſh between Deſtroying a Prince meerly for his Opinion in Religion, and Deſtroying Tyrants who Deſign to overthrow the Laws, Religion and all Civil Rights and hate the Nation. It is a pious glorious Action, and ſuch as will teach all Princes to uſe their Subjects kindly, or to that effect.

Rob. Weſt.

The

The further Examination of Robert West *of the* Middle-Temple *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant upon further Recollection ſaith, That after Capt. *Walcot* had acquainted this Examinant of the Inſurrection intended to have been made in *November* laſt, the ſaid *Walcot* came a ſecond time to this Examinant and told this Examinant that the Lord *Shaftsbury* had prevailed with him to engage in it, and that if it proceeded he would engage in it, and deſired this Examinant to buy for him the ſaid *Walcot* a long ſtiff Tuck of ſome Cutler this Examinant knew, which this Examinant undertook and beſpoke, but was ſo long before he could procure it that the ſaid *Walcot* had otherwiſe provided himſelf and the Deſign was laid aſide firſt, and this Examinant was forced to keep the ſaid Tuck the Cutler refuſing to take it again.

And the ſaid Mr. *Walcot* told this Examinant to the beſt of his remembrance, that the Lord *Shaftsbury* had formerly ſent for Sir *George Cambel* and Sir *John Cockran* about ſettling a Scotch Colony or Plantation in *Carolina*, but he believed that was only a pretence, and that the real truth was to Concert Matters in order to ſome Deſign in *Scotland*, for the Lord *Shaftsbury* had ſent for him upon pretence of ſome Command in *Carolina*, but when he came the Lord *Shaftsbury* was very cool in it. And this Examinant further ſaith That the ſaid Mr. *Walcot* refuſed a long time to act in any wiſe in the Attempt upon the King and Duke in the *Newmarket* Journey, but at length by the perſuaſion of *Ferguſon* as this Examinant believes he undertook to Command the Party who were to Fight the Guards or to be one of them, but refuſed to act in the Aſſaſſination it ſelf.

And this Examinant further ſaith, The ſaid *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that when the Earl of *Argyle* was in *England* laſt Year he had offered to make a ſturdy Commotion in *Scotland* if he might have had but 6000 *l.* (for ſo low he came down from his firſt demand of 30000 or 40000 *l.*) but our Great Men were jealous of him then, and would not truſt him, though he offered that they ſhould employ whom they would themſelves to lay out the Money in Arms, which he ſaid was a great Overſight and Opportunity loſt. And this Examinant believes the Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke Deſigned in *October* laſt was Projected and Abetted by the late Earl of *Shaftsbury* and that the Money in one of this Examinants former Examinations mentioned to be advanced for that Deſign was advanced by the ſaid Earl, becauſe this Examinant had heard (but cannot ſay poſitively from whom) that the ſaid Earl complained of having been ill uſed in that Matter, in the Money not being returned though it was not laid out.

Infor-

Information of Carleton Whitlock, 5. July 83.

MR. *Weſt* ſometime in *Eaſter* Term laſt in the Court of Requeſts told me That ſome deſperate Fellows had deſigned to have killed the King, or would have killed the King as he came laſt from *Newmarket*, if they had not been afraid that the Duke of *Monmouth* would have Hanged them. Upon which I told him that it had been a Villanous action and that all Mankind would have deteſted the Action and the Murderers, and that if it ever had been in the Duke of *Monmouth*'s power he would certainly have Hanged them for it, if they had done it. He told me afterwards that there was a Deſign of raiſing a conſiderable Sum of Money to buy Arms, as I remember in *Holland*, and that Major *Wildman*, Col. *Algernoon Sidney*, and *Ferguſon* managed the Buſineſs and that my Lord *Ruſſel* was very active in it, or words to that effect, and that Writings were drawn or drawing or to be drawn for the taking up of the Money, as I remember he ſaid *Ferguſon* was to manage on the behalf of the *Scots*. This he told me at his Houſe one day when I Dined with him, but upon my not Examining him to particulars, he ſaid nothing to me but thus generally; only at his Houſe he ſaid that ſome of them were for a Commonwealth and others for a Monarchy.

At Mr. *Shutes* Funeral in the publick Room *Nelthrop* came to me and asked me for ſomething for poor *Ferguſon*, as he called him, and told me he was doing a good Work for all Honeſt Men; I told him I would give nothing to any Man for doing Work I did not know of.

C. Whitlock.

Mr. Edmund Waller's *Confeſſion.*

I Did once meet Mr. *Weſt* I do not know the certain time and he rail'd ſo much at thoſe he called Proteſtant Lords, that I asked him if he would have them be Rebels, and told him that ſuch Men as he and nothing elſe could ruine the Kingdom; this was in the Temple before the Hall, the laſt and only other time that I ever ſpoke with him in private, that is alone, for we walked in the Temple Cloiſters: I met him there, and he told me that ſome People not naming himſelf as one, had had a Deſign to ſet upon the King (I am not certain whether he named *Newmarket*) but he ſaid it was over, I went from him haſtily and only ſaid theſe things will Hang you and undo a great many other People, as I remember when he ſaid there had been ſuch a Deſign, I told him I did not believe it, and then he ſaid it was to have been done as the King came from *Newmarket*, and was going on to ſay more but I interrupted him and went away,

and I believe he was jealous of me for he called after me and ſaid there was no danger; this was as I think the Saturday before this Conſpiracy was ſpoke of in *Weſtminſter-Hall.*

July 6. 1683. *Edm. Waller.*

Information of Zachary Bourn.

Richard Goodenough bringing Mr. *Ferguſon* alias *Roberts* (for that Name he uſed to go by) to my Houſe it was a great while ere I underſtood any thing at all of the Deſign, but ſo many coming to him daily as did made me jealous I did imagine ſomething of it, upon which he took an occaſion one day to ask what I thought about the Gentlemen that came ſo often to him, and then ſays, Admit there ſhould be a Deſign on Foot for the good of the People of *England* would you be againſt it? To which I anſwered, If I can do it with a ſafe Conſcience I could not tell well what I ſhould be perſuaded to. As to that, ſays he, I ſhall eaſily ſatisfie you, and then went on to prove a mutual Covenant between the King and the People, that his Majeſty had broke it on his ſide, ſo the People were again at Liberty; but to the Matter, ſays, he as indeed I will be plain with you, if you love your ſelf you muſt come in, for there is a Deſign on foot ſo laid, and ſo far gone that it is impoſſible it ſhould fail. Then I deſired him, if he thought it convenient, to let me know ſome particulars, which he ſaid he would, provided I would promiſe him ſecrecy, but eſpecially I ſhould ſay nothing to my Father or Wife, for he thought I would not ſpeak to any Body elſe, upon which I ſaid I would, and then he was plain as he ſaid, and told me as follows.

That there was not a County in *England* but had prepared for the Buſineſs leſs or more, but eſpecially in the North and Weſt, and that they were ſure of moſt places of Strength throughout the Kingdom, but eſpecially *Briſtol* and *Newcaſtle*, and that they were then a conſidering how to ſecure *Portſmouth*, but were afraid they ſhould not, the Gariſon was ſo ſtrong.

And that the *Scots* were to ſtir at the ſame time we were, and that we were to lend them 10000 *l.* to be remitted into *Holland* to buy Arms for them; and that he was to go over with the Bills of Exchange; that he found out a Perſon could depoſite the Money upon good Security, which the Lords had promiſed ſhould be given; that there was a *Dutch* Merchant or two that he had got to provide the Arms, for the *Engliſh* could not do it without ſuſpicion.

Then I asked him who the Lords were? He told me there was the Duke of *Monmouth*, Lord *Grey*, Lord *Ruſſel*, and Major *Wildman*, and Col. *Sidney*, I told him I wondred the Duke would be perſuaded to take up Arms againſt his Father, for my part I ſhould be very unwilling to truſt him; He anſwered me that he had the greateſt

aſſurance

aſſurance in the World of him, and that I need no more be afraid of the Duke than of him.

He told me the Lord *Argyle* who was to Command the *Scots* was of my opinion too, for he had a few days before ſent a Letter to him to be well ſatisfied in the point, and that he had ſent him ſuch an anſwer as he did not doubt would ſatisfie him.

He told me the Duke of *York* had fourteen thouſand Men in half pay about the Town, and for his part he thought we ought to defend our ſelves, for we could not tell but our Throats might be cut every night. I asked him how he could tell all this? He told me that they had a great deal of Intelligence from the Tory party, for there were ſome that were willing to play a ſure Game and ſo keep in with both ſides. Some little time after this there came one Mr. *John Row* that was Sword-bearer of *Briſtol* with one *James Holloway* of the ſame place a Merchant, to enquire for *Ferguſon*, but he was unwilling to ſee them: Then *Row* asked me to go and give him a Diſh of Coffee, which I did, and *James Holloway* gave me an account of the Poſture of Affairs at *Briſtol*, which I wondred at, being the firſt time that ever I ſaw him, *viz.*

That they had been ready this two or three Months, that there was but eight in *Briſtol* that knew of it, that he had had ſome Cannon he had taken out of ſome Ships he was concerned in had lain there ſo long he was affraid they would miſtruſt ſomething, that he had great plenty of Powder and Bullet in his own Houſe, and that they had a Couple of Ships there that would carry forty Guns a piece which they intended to ſeize the firſt Riſing, and fit out to Sea, and then their manner of getting; together was thus Some of thoſe eight had Houſes out of Town, where they would get all of the Town they thought were for their purpoſe; the Diſſenters under pretence of a Meeting, and the others under ſome Colour or other, and then tell them the Deſign, and if they would not go with them they would ſecure or force them, and that they would ſeize all the head Men of the Contrary party which were not above thirty in all, and that they would poſt Men at the Corner of every Street ſo that there ſhould not a Man ſtir without they pleaſed.

And that to their aſſiſtance they ſhould have ſome Colliers out of King Road, and ſome Scotch Pedlars that were about the Country, many of whom were of *Bothwel-Bridge*.

He ſaid further that the King would have by the time they begun a great many Thouſand pounds that they would ſeize, and that there was a great many of the Tory party that had a great ſumm of Mony by them which they muſt borrow and that there was not a good Horſe within five Miles about them but they knew where to have him; that they wanted but two hundred Muskets, for they thought they ſhould have more Men than Arms, which he was come up about, which he hoped the Lords would help them to, but if they could not Mr. *Wade* would lend them the Mony to buy them, and that he ſhould pack them up in Parcels of Goods and ſend them by the Carryer to his Houſe: Mr. *Wade* told me himſelf he would do it, that is lend the Mony, but it was ſome time after this, Mr. *Row* ſet by and approved what *Holloway* ſaid to be true; after this I went down to the Wells, and ſtaid about a fortnight. When I came

home

home again Mr. *Wade* came to me and told me I muſt promiſe Secrecy, and then he had ſomething to ſay to me, which was that affairs were ſettled every where very well but in *London*, and tho the Lords had a Deſign to let *London* alone, yet they ſaw there was a neceſſity that the buſineſs muſt be done effectually in *London*, for if they let that alone it was enough to maintain a War againſt the whole Kingdom and that their Friends here would be all ruined, and that in order to the ſecuring of it they had taken this method by which they might know their ſtrength. They had divided the *Town* into ſo many Diviſions and had got honeſt Fellows to conſult what Men they might expect out of every Diviſion, and that they had no body about me that they thought could ſerve them, and therefore deſired me to think if it was not poſſible to get about a hundred and ſixty Men out of *Bloomsbury*, St. *Giles's*, St. *James's* and *Soho*, and that I might, by way of Diſcourſe, ask ſome of my acquaintance if there ſhould be occaſion to defend our ſelves whether they could not find out ten or fifteen or twenty Men that would aſſiſt; that they ſhould have a Meeting again in two or three days, and then he would give me an account of it, and I ſhould go to them. And accordingly on *Friday* following being the 8*th*. of *June* towards Evening he came and fetcht me out, and carried me to the *Dragon* Tavern on *Snow-Hill*, where I met Colonel *Romzey*, Mr. *Robert Weſt*, Captain *Walcot*, Mr. *Norton*, Mr. *Wade*, *Richard* and *Francis Goodenough*: then I was asked if I could not do what Mr. *Goodenough* had ſpoke to me about, and was deſired not to ſay any thing about the buſineſs to any body in direct terms, but eſpecially to any of the Miniſters, for *Weſt* ſaid they were a parcel of Rogues that had ruined the People ever ſince *Conſtantine*. I told them I thought Mr. *Mead*, and Mr. *Lobb* might be truſted, and that they were, if they would, capable of ſerving them very much. But they would not hear it then, but the next meeting which was on Monday the 11*th*. Ditto at the *Salutation* in *Lumbard-ſtreet*, they did think it was neceſſary Mr. *Lobb* ſhould be ſpoke to, but not directly, which I did, for the next day I went to him, and talking of the badneſs of the times, I ſaid there was but one way to help our ſelves, and that was by Arms, and if we ſhould have occaſion to do ſo, I asked him where he could find a good parcel amongſt his people that he thought would ſtir. He told me that the Spirits of the people were low, but he did believe there was a pretty many of them that would make uſe of an opportunity if it was put into their Hands, but he could ſee no hopes of ſuch an opportunity as yet, we were too great Cowards, but I bid him not be out of hopes, and ſo our diſcourſe ended, for his Wife came in.

The next Meeting which was on *Thurſday* the 14*th*. Ditto at the *Dragon* on *Snow-Hill*, *Richard Goodenough* brought in an account of the Diviſions he was concerned in, which was all the Town almoſt, but where I was, and at *Weſtminſter* where Mr. *Grange* a Brewer was concerned, but he ne're met with us, but *Goodenough* ſaid he promiſed two hundred Men, and would be free of his Purſe. At this Meeting, they reſolved on this which had been Conſulted before, (for now they began to be ſure of the Deſign, for they had a probability of eight or nine thouſand Men from the account *Goodenough* gave in and others) that *Whitehal* ſhould be ſecured

ſecured, and the manner thus: That the Men in *Weſtminſter* ſhould be ready to make an Attaque on that ſide, that they would get about 100 Seamen that ſhould come up in Long-Boats with Hand-Granadoes and ſhould Attaque that part next the Water and that a Party of about 500 ſhould come down by *Charing-Croſs*, part of which ſhould ſecure the *Mews*, and the reſt march down and ſurprize the Guards in their ſleep, for it was to have been about one or two in the Morning, and that all the Chief Miniſters of State were to be ſecured, the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs and ſome of the Aldermen, another party to ſecure the *Savoy* and *Sommerſet-Houſe*, and that in *Covent-Garden* and *Lincolns-Inn-Fields* were to be Bodies of Men to be ready to give aſſiſtance if need were, and that all the expedition imaginable was to be made, for now it was put into the hands of a great many, and there was danger of a Diſcovery. Mr. *Goodenough* told us that day that he had met with an Engineer that would do ſtrange things about taking the *Tower*, and that he had ſix or ſeven Mortar Pieces that belonged to the *Tower*, and that he would take care to keep them this Month or ſix Weeks; at that time Mr. *Weſt* ſaid he thought I muſt ſecure my Neighbour meaning the Lord Keeper, but I told him I would do no ſuch thing as to fall on a Neighbour; truly he ſaid he ſhould be very willing to come to an account with him, and if he did he ſhould put him in mind of *Colledg*. At this time *Goodenough* ſaid the People that he had ſpoke of the Matters to, deſired they might know what they muſt truſt to, for if the Deſign was only to change Perſons they had as good have the Father as the Son, and therefore deſired ſome Heads might be thought on and carried to the Duke to be ſigned by him the night before the Deſign began, and theſe Five things were reſolved on.

1. That the Militia ſhould be in the hands of the People.
2. That they ſhould chooſe their own Sheriffs in every County.
3. That we ſhould have a Parliament once a Year, and that they ſhould Sit as long as they had any thing to do.
4. That they ſhould have Liberty of Conſcience.
5. That all the Nobility of *England* that had acted contrary to the Intereſt of the People ſhould be Degraded.

Mr. *Wade* was to put theſe in Writing, and carry them the next Morning to Col. *Romzey* who was to go to the Duke with them, which he did, and on Saturday the 16th. *Ditto* at the *George* and *Vulture* on *Ludgat-Hill* he brought us this Account, that he was to wait on the Duke twice before he could ſpeak with him, but at laſt did; that the Dukes anſwer was, that all of them were things of moment, and that they could not be done without a Parliament but muſt be left to them, that he would do what lay in his power towards the obtaining them, but there being word brought to one *Lee* a Dyer in St. *Giles Cripple-Gate* Pariſh, that there was High Treaſon ſworn againſt him and *Richard Goodenough*; *Goodenough* would not come to us that night, ſo this only was concluded on, that we ſhould meet on Monday at the *Caſtle* Tavern in *Fleetſtreet*, and that ſome time on Monday Mr. *Lee* and Mr. *Wade* ſhould go to Mr. *Weſt*'s Chamber to ſurvey the Map of the Town to find fit places to meet in and give us an account at our Meeting, but on Sunday they had an account all was Diſcovered by one *Keeling* whom they had ſome ſuſpition of ſome days before; upon Monday Morning they met at

Captain *Tracy*'s where Captain *Walcot* Lodged, Col. *Romzey* came to my Houſe and gave Mr. *Ferguſon* and me an account of it, and took me with him to Captain *Tracy*'s where they conſulted how to retrive the Buſineſs: Moſt were for Puſhing for it, and ſo to die with their Swords in their Hands; and another way was propoſed I think by Mr. *Weſt*, to kill *Keeling* and one Doctor *Butler* which I think Col. *Romzey* named, who was ſaid to be the perſon brought *Keeling* in to Diſcover, and that this would give them ſuch a Blow would make them afraid: The manner of taking Doctor *Butler* was to be thus, Some Men to go to him (it was to be after the killing of *Keeling*) and undertake to give him an exact account of the Murder and the reſt of the Plot, and ſo to meet at a Tavern where was a convenient Room for the purpoſe and there to have Aſſaſſinated him, but I left them in the diſpute and went not again till Morning, when I came there they were all gone but *Weſt*, who told me that one *Rumbald* and others had been in company with *Keeling* all the day before and he had perſuaded them into a belief he had ſworn nothing againſt any Man and ſo eſcaped from them, though this Morning they found to the contrary.

At one time talking to *Ferguſon* about this Matter, he ſaid nothing was to be expected from the Rich old Citizens, and therefore half a dozen of them muſt be taken out of their Houſes and Hang'd on their Sign Poſts and their Houſes given as Plunder to the Mobile and that would ſcare the reſt. Another time meeting *Roe* after the Fire at *Newmarket* a great while, he began to talk of the Deſign at *Newmarket*, which he declined when he found I was ignorant of it, but by him and others I underſtood afterwards that there was a Conſult ſeveral times at *Weſt*'s Chamber againſt the Life of his Majeſty, and that in order thereunto *Weſt* had bought as many Arms as coſt about 100 *l.* of a Gunſmith in *Shere-Lane*, but the Fire happening prevented the Deſign. Another time talking with *Roe*, he ſaid there was no way like Lopping, that was his Majeſty and his Royal Highneſs; to which I anſwered, I never approved of ſuch Ways, and that he might do it himſelf for me if he would have it done, upon which he replied he would be one with all his heart, and that it might be done through or over my Lord of *Bedford*'s Wall as his Majeſty went to the Play-Houſe, or as he went to *Hampton-Court* from *Windſor*. At another time I met *Weſt* on the *Exchange*, and he told me the Lords were all a parcel of Rogues, and *Ferguſon* a credulous Fool, for that they would Trick upon the *Scots* and us too, that he had laid out a parcel of Money for Arms, and that he could not get it again, which I told *Ferguſon* when I ſaw him but he ſaid he ſhould have it. Sometime after I met him in *Lincolns-Inn-Fields* and he told me that he had a Note to one Major *Wildman* for the Money and that he'd go for it next Morning, which he did, but the Major was gone out of Town. Sometime after I went to Mr. *Owen*'s in *Bloomsbury*, where *Ferguſon* then Lodged and there I asked him about *Weſt*'s Money, he told me he had given it himſelf, for that it was ſent to him juſt before Mr. *Weſt* came in and he had given it him. On Monday they met at Captain *Tracy*'s, Mr. *Weſt* gave a Note to one *Tottle* to go to the Gunſmith to fetch the Arms he had bought, leſt they ſhould be found there and carry them with to one of the Plantations, I think *New York*, which *Tottle* did then

profer,

profer, if they would puſh for it he would not go his Voyage, thô I think he ſaid his Ship was at *Graveſend*, nor would he come alone, but undertake for a Hundred Seamen and others preſently.

The perſons that uſed to come to *Ferguſon* were Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* very often ſometimes two or three times a day, Colonel *Romzey*, Captain *Walcot*, Mr. *Wade*, Mr. *Norton*, *Richard Goodenough*, *Richard Nelthrop*, Mr. *Weſt*, Mr. *Charleton* with a wooden Leg, Mr. *John Freak*, Mr. *Blany* once or twice, Mr. *Thomas Shepard* Merchant, Sir *Robert Rich*, *John Starkey*, (Mr. *Baily* a Scotchman, and Sir *Camel*, and a great many more of his Country men) and ſeveral from *Wapping*, all whom I know when I ſee, alſo Mr. *John Ayloff* uſed to come when he was in Town.

Ferguſon told me of a certain perſon of Quality in that part of *Ireland* next *Scotland* that could Raiſe Twenty Thouſand Men, and that he had promiſed it, I asked his Name but he would not tell me; he told me it was *Aaron Smith* was ſent to *Scotland* about this buſineſs, and that he had like to have ſpoiled all, but that the perſon to whom he carried the Letter went to the Council and ſhewed them a Letter he had about ſome buſineſs of *Carolina*, and asked leave to come to *London* about it, and ſo got off this ſuſpition.

Zec. Bourne.

July the *6th.*
1683.

Zec. Bourne's *further Information.*

THat Mr. *Baily* the Scotchman ſate up one night with Mr. *Ferguſon*, and he went ſeveral times with him to the Duke, and the other Lords; that *Ferguſon* lodged at ſeveral places a few nights at a time and ſo to my Houſe again, at one Mr. *Bickerſtaff*, a Sword Cutler in *Covent-Garden*, at a *German* Doctors at the Green Poſts in St. *Martins-lane*, and Mr. *Owens* in *King-ſtreet* in *Bloomsbury*.

That we met at the *Salutation* in *Lumbard-ſtreet* by the perſwaſion of Captain *Walcot*, for he ſaid Mr. *Thomas Shepard* would meet us there, he went out of Town every night and ſo could not come further, that I have often carried Letters to the Exchange to Mr. *Shepard* from *Ferguſon*, that he uſed to come often to my Houſe to him, that I believe him to be the Man was to return the ten thouſand pound, for *Ferguſon* told me he had a great Correſpondence with ſeveral Merchants in *Holland* and that he did return my Lord *Shaftsburies* Mony when he went over.

That

That Captain *Walcot* would have ſpoke to one Mr. *Collins* an Anabaptiſt Preacher (he Preaches ſomewhere in *Moorfields*) that could aſſiſt us greatly, but they would not hear of it being a Parſon.

Mr. *Weſt* told me that Mr. *Aloff* was at the buying the Arms in *Shear-lane*, and if at the buying I ſuppoſe at the contriving the uſe for them, that two or three days before the Diſcovery was made by Mr. *Keeling*, thinking the buſineſs was pretty ripe, Mr. *Norton* was deſired to write to Mr. *Ayloff* to come to Town which he did.

That *Ferguſon* deſired me to tell them one night when we met, that he muſt have a party to ſeize Mr. *L'Eſtrange*, for he ſhould find ſtrange Papers, and that great care muſt be taken to ſecure the Paper Office at *Whitehal.*

Zec. Bourne.

THat *Ferguſon* told me that one Mr. *Owen* of *Grays-Inn* would give a hundred pound towards the Deſign, and further he told me that he was the Author of thoſe two Libels, *viz. A Letter about the Black Box*, *And a Letter concerning his Majeſties Declaration*; that as he walked in the Fields at that time the Diſcourſe was about the Black Box, it came into his mind to write about it, which he did in an Ale-Houſe in *Chancery-lane*, and that afterwards when his Majeſties Declaration came out concerning the Duke of *Monmouth*, he finding no body took notice of it in Print, reſolved to write an Anſwer to that, which he ſaid he did as he lay in his Bed one Morning, and further told me he got one thrown on his Majeſties Hat as he walked on the Tarras Walk at *Windſor*, and an other laid under his Pillar, but would not tell me who it was had ſo diſpoſed of them two for him; and farther told me that the Duke of *Monmouth* gave him fifty Guinies for that peice of ſervice and ſo hath done every year ſince. Mr. *Bethel* that was Sheriff of *London* was once at my Houſe with *Ferguſon* and had ſome private Diſcourſe with him.

Zec. Bourne.

THE

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle Temple, *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant upon further Recollection ſaith that at the Meetings for Carrying on the Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke, it was reſolved, that Sir *John Moor* the late Lord Mayor of *London* ſhould be killed, as well as the preſent Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and that if the people did not pull him in pieces, his skin ſhould be flead off and ſtuft and hung up in *Guild-Hall* as one who betrayed the Rights and Priviledges of the City.

And it was further reſolved that Mr. *Papillion*, and Mr. *Dubois* ſhould be declared Sheriffs, and Sir *Thomas Gold* or Alderman *Corniſh* (but this Examinant thinks Alderman *Corniſh* was pitch'd on as the briſker Man) to be Lord Mayor, and that they ſhould be forced to take thoſe Offices upon them, and if they refuſed ſhould be knocked on the head. And Sir *Robert Clayton* and Sir *Patience Ward* who had behaved themſelves like Trimmers in their Mayoralty, and neglected to repeal ſeveral By-Laws whereby they might have prevented Sir *John Moor* from being Lord Mayor ſhould be forced to appear publickly and own the fact, or elſe be knockt on the Head.

And it was further propoſed that moſt of the Judges ſhould be killed or brought to Tryal for their Arbitrary Judgments, and their Skins ſtuft and hung up in *Weſtminſter-Hall.*

It was further ſaid by Colonel *Rumzey* to the beſt of this Examinants remembrance, that though he was not for ſhedding much blood there would be a neceſſity of taking off ſome of the chief Abhorrers and Addreſſers in moſt Counties otherwiſe they would be making head, but this Examinant was of opinion that a publick Declaration of ſafety to their perſons and Eſtates if they would ſubmit, was a better expedient and would win more upon the People; And it was further reſolved that ſome of the principal reputed Pentioners in the late long Parliament ſhould be brought to Tryal and Death, and that there Skins ſhould be ſtuft and hung up in the Parliament Houſe as Betrayers of the People, and of the Truſt. It was propoſed that Biſhops Deans and Chapters ſhould be wholly laid aſide, but no reſolution was taken concerning their Lands becauſe the preſent Tenants might be induced to ſubmit in hopes of preſerving them, and would be ſure to ſtruggle if they ſaw they muſt loſe them, and thoſe who had thoſe Lands in the late times would be ſure to engage in Arms for us or ſubmit in hopes of having thoſe Lands again. Some Diſcourſe was had of applying thoſe Revenues, and of one half or two thirds of the Colleges in both Univerſities to publick uſes in eaſe of the People from Taxes. It was further propoſed that it ſhould be publickly declared to the people that they ſhould be eaſed of the Chimny Mony, and have Toleration in matters of Religion, which was thought would engage all the meaner people; That *England* ſhould be a free Port and all Strangers who would

ſhould be naturalized, which was looked upon as a means to engage Foreigners on our ſide, that there ſhould be no Taxes for the future but the Exciſe and Land-Taxes which ſhould be appropriated to particular uſes, and all forfeited Eſtates ſhould be applyed to too.

And this Examinant further ſaith that this Examinant enquiring of *Ferguſon* what Fond of Mony was provided, it was anſwered by him and Colonel *Romzey*, that if the buſineſs were done and backt with ſucceſs there could be no want of Mony, there would be half a years Revenue of the Chimny Mony then due beſides what the Exciſe-Office and Cuſtom-Houſe would afford, and that there was Mony and Plate enough among the Bankers and Goldſmiths which muſt be taken up upon Publick Faith if there were occaſion, and be punctually repaid again for the reputation of the Cauſe.

And this Examinant further ſaith that when *Walcot* agreed to engage in the ſaid Action he deſired his name might be concealed whatſoever the effect of it proved, whereupon *Ferguſon* replyed no Man ought to be aſhamed of it, for tis a glorious Action and ſuch as I hope to ſee rewarded by a Parliament, and that the Actors in it ſhall have Statues Erected to them with Inſcriptions of *Liberatores Patriæ*.

And this Examinant further ſaith that he acquainted Mr. *Thomas Shepard* Merchant that this Examinant had provided Arms in his former Examination mentioned, and that *Ferguſon* promiſed to ſee for a Conveniency of Committing the Aſſaſſination between *Hampton-Court* and *Windſor*.

And this Examinant further ſaith that Mr. *Bourn* a Brewer between great *Queen-ſtreet* and *Parker-lane* was acquainted with the intended Inſurrections, and hath talked with this Examinant about them, and declared himſelf ready to engage in an Inſurrection, but not in the Aſſaſſination, and the ſaid *Bourn* was knowing of the Arms bought by this Examinant but was not at the Meeting when they were agreed to be beſpoken; and this Examinant believes he acquainted Mr. *Carleton Whitlock*, Mr. *Edmund Waller* both of the *Middle-Temple*, and Mr. *Holford* of *Chancery-lane* of the intended Aſſaſſination and Inſurrection in *November*, but he did not do ſo till after the time for Execution was paſt: And further ſaith, that in the beginning of *October* laſt this Examinant met with Colonel *Sidney* at *Uxbridge*, where the ſaid Colonel told this Examinant that many tricks had been plaid in the Scrutiny of the Poll for the Lord Mayor, and that Sir *William Prichard* was declared though not duly choſen, but ſaid he, all that I can ſay to it is what a Juſtice of Peace of *Eſſex* ſaid lately to a Country Fellow brought before him for Killing a High-way Man that would have Rob'd him; Friend ſaies the Juſtice you have done well, but you might have been Rob'd if you would; and ſo we may be inſlaved if we will, or elſe need not, or he uſed words to that purpoſe, but this Examinant to the beſt of his remembrance never ſpake to the ſaid Colonel ſince.

Rob. Weſt.

The further Examination of Robert VVeſt *of the* Middle Temple *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant upon further Recollection ſaith that *Richard Goodenough* and *Francis Goodenough* formerly offered to act in the intended Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke if a ſufficient number of Men could not be got to do it, but afterwards believing there were Men enough beſides, they both declined it.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that at ſome of the Meetings concerning the ſaid Aſſaſſination, Colonel *Rumzey* ſaid it would be very convenient to take off Colonel *Legg* the now Lord *Dartmouth*, for he was a ſtout Man and of deſperate Courage, and believed if he could get into the *Tower*, would in Revenge fire all the Gunpowder in the White *Tower*, which would endanger the whole City. And it was ſaid concerning the Lady *Ann* Daughter to the Duke of *York*, that it would be beſt to Marry her to ſome ſmall Country Gentleman and have a Breed only to keep out any Forrain pretenders to the Crown; and at one of the ſaid Meetings, when it was diſcourſed whether the King or Duke ſhould be killed ſingly, it was agreed, that *Rumbold* ſhould ſend out a Spye before, who by ſome ſigns ſhould give an account at a diſtance whether the King and Duke were both together or not, and at one of the ſaid Meetings when it was deſigned that it would be convenient to take off ſome of the Chief Miniſters of State, as the Lord *Keeper*, Lord *Halifax*, Lord *Hyde*, *Richard Goodenough* ſaid, take the Keeper Priſoner, and Try him at *Oxford* for the Death of *Colledge*, and hang him upon the ſame Poſt on which *Colledge* was hanged.

And at one of the ſaid Meetings this Examinant ſaying he was well enough Armed for one, for he had a good Muſket Blunderbuſs and Caſe of Piſtols, the ſaid *Rumbold* deſired to ſee 'em, and finding 'em very good ſaid he believed he muſt uſe the Blunderbuſs in the Aſſaſſination, and told *Ferguſon* he muſt Conſecrate it if he ſhould uſe it.

And this Examinant ſaith that at one of the ſaid Meetings, this Examinant was appointed to ſpeak to one Captain *Bon* a Seaman at *Ratcliff* to undertake the Raiſing a body of Seamen to ſurprize the *Tower* in caſe the Aſſaſſination had been committed, and this Examinant accordingly propoſed to the ſaid *Bon* whether he would undertake to do ſo; but the ſaid *Bon* replyed he was going to ſettle in *America* where he was born, and did not care to be concerned, and feared he had not intereſt enough amongſt the Seamen if he would, which this Examinant reported to the next Meeting, and the ſaid *Bon* is ſince gone to live in *New-England* where he was born, or in *New-Jerſey*.

And this Examinant further ſaith that *Richard Goodenough* told this Examinant that he had ſpoken to one Mr. *Grange* a Brewer in *Weſtminſter* to try what Men could be Raiſed in *Weſtminſter* for carrying on the laſt Deſign of Raiſing three thouſand Men out of the City

City and Suburbs, and alſo ſpoken to one *Barnes* a Hatter in *Fleet-ſtreet* to try what Men might be raiſed thereabout, but this Examinant never ſpake to either of the ſaid Parties about it, neither doth this Examinant know nor hath heard what other Perſons were employed by *Goodenough* or any other Perſon in that Deſign, and further ſaith not.

Rob. Weſt.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle-Temple *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant upon further Recollection ſaith that when the Inſurrection intended in *November* laſt was reſolved on and *Walcot* agreed to engage in it, the ſaid *Walcot* deſired this Examinant to lend him ſome of this Examinant's Suit of Silk Armour, *viz.* a Back, Breſt and Head-piece, and afterward asked this Examinant to take ſome Command of Horſe under him and to engage ſome young Men of the Temple, telling this Examinant he could make this Examinant a ſufficient Officer in two or three days time, but this Examinant refuſed to engage himſelf or his friends either, though he offered the ſaid *Walcot* the uſe of his Armour.

And this Examinant further ſaith that when the Arms in his former Examinations mentioned were ordered to be beſpoke, it was alſo propoſed that *Ferguſon* ſhould provide the 600 *l.* he pretended to have ready for that purpoſe to buy Horſes, which ſhould be kept at Livery Stables in the names of private Gentlemen, and be always in a readineſs to be made uſe of as any opportunity for an Aſſaſſination or other Occaſion ſhould offer, and the night or two before they were to be uſed ſhould ſeemingly be brought out of the Livery Stables by Men to be employed for that purpoſe, but *Ferguſon* not bringing the Money no Horſes were bought.

And this Examinant further ſaith that after the Treaty with the *Scots* ſeemed to be at an end, and the 10000 *l.* not like to be had, *Ferguſon* told this Examinant that the Duke of *Monmouth* was willing to ſpeak with this Examinant and *Goodenough* to conſider what ought to be done in the City and Suburbs, and to leave the Lords and other People (by which this Examinant ſuppoſes he meant the Lords *Grey* and *Ruſſel*, *Sidney* and *Wildman*) but this Examinant refuſed to go to the Duke or to Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, and knows not whether *Goodenough* went to the Duke, though he did go to *Armſtrong*.

And *Ferguſon* likewiſe told this Examinant, That if the *Engliſh* would not agree to ſtir, it was his opinion and the opinion of many of the Duke's Friends, and of the *Scotch* Gentlemen that were here, that the Duke ſhould go to *Scotland* and head the *Scots* there; where-

whereupon Mr. *Wade* who was then preſent ſaid, If the Duke did go thither he would wait upon him in the Expedition as a Voluntier.

And this Examinant further ſaith, That at ſome Meeting for the carrying on the intended Aſſaſſination, *Ferguſon* ſaid The King went frequently in the Night croſs St. *James*'s *Park* in a Chair without any Attendance, and that it would be eaſie for two Men with Swords barely to diſpatch him and make their Eſcape; whereupon Col. *Romzey* ſaid it was a ſtrange thing to him, that the great Men who were ſo deſirous to have the Buſineſs done, ſhould not make a Purſe and buy ſome good Office at Court for ſome Man whom they could truſt, who ſhould Roar loud of the Duke of *Monmouth* and the Wiggs, and by that means get into reputation and truſt and ſhould obſerve and give an account of the King's and Duke's Walks and Hours and any Journeys they deſigned; and the ſaid Colonel ſaid he had told *Armſtrong* ſo and bad him tell his Lords.

And this Examinant further ſaith that about the time the Inſurrection intended in *November* laſt was carrying on this Examinant obſerved the Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrick* and *Walcot* to be very intimate and often together, and the ſaid *Walcot* told this Examinant that the Lord *Howard* was as right as any Man for the Buſineſs and as forward to engage, but this Examinant doth not remember that he ever ſpoke with the Lord *Howard* himſelf about that Inſurrection. And further ſaith Mr. *Roe* told this Examinant that *Gibbons* the Duke of *Monmouth*'s Servant offered to be one to commit the Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke, and further ſaith not.

Rob. Weſt.

The further Examination of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle Temple *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant further ſaith, That after *Ferguſon* had told this Examinant that a Sum of Money for carrying on the Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke in *October* laſt was paid to a certain Perſon who never returned it, of which the Lord *Shaftsbury* complained: The ſaid *Ferguſon* at another time a little before the Diſcovery told this Examinant that *Richard Goodenough* was the perſon to whom that Money was paid, and that he called *Ferguſon* Fool for returning ſome Money he had received for the ſame purpoſe and Col. *Romzey* told this Examinant that Mr. *Charleton* paid that Money.

And this Examinant further ſaith that when Mr. *Goodenough* told this Examinant that he would ſpeak to *Hone* the Joyner to be one of the Aſſaſſinates, he ſaid he would firſt try him whether he would undertake an Attempt upon the Duke of *York* before he would break the whole Buſineſs to him; and as he found

him willing to that he would proceed. And this Examinant believes Mr. *Goodenough* did accordingly, for that the ſaid *Hone* coming to this Examinants Chamber ſoon after, and being asked by this Examinant whether he had lately ſeen Mr. *Goodenough*? The ſaid *Hone* anſwered he had, and talked with him about a Jobb upon the Duke of *York*: And this Examinant asking him whether they were agreed? *Hone* replyed yes, but this Examinant doth not remember that *Hone* then mentioned the King or any name or Deſcription implying the King. And about five or ſix weeks ſince the ſaid *Hone* came to this Examinants Chamber about a ſmall alteration this Examinant deſigned to make in his Chamber, and then the ſaid *Hone* asked this Examinant, Maſter will nothing be done? To which this Examinant anſwering he believed not, the ſaid *Hone* Replyed, if this Duke of *Monmouth* would be true and appear openly, I could bring fifty or ſixty honeſt Fellows from our ſide of the Water (meaning *Southwark*) who would be ready for buſineſs as well as my ſelf, and this Examinant asking him what buſineſs? *Hone* replyed any buſineſs, either a brisk puſh (by which this Examinant ſuppoſed he meant a General Inſurrection) or the other Trick or Jobb of taking off the two Brothers, the Captain and Lieutenant which were two Names uſed for the King and Duke.

And this Examinant further ſaith that when the Diſcourſe was had concerning the Killing the Miniſters of State, Colonel *Romzey* ſaid, the Lord *Halifax* was one of the Greateſt Rogues, and deſerved it more than any Man, for he profeſſing himſelf formerly of our Party knows our weakneſs and Diviſions and hath expoſed us and made the Court venture upon things which they would never have done otherwiſe. And when *Goodenough* propoſed that the Lord *Keeper* ſhould be Hanged where *Colledge* was Hanged this Examinant having an Opinion that the Lord *Keeper* was an Enemy to this Examinant and had uſed him very hardly in a Cauſe this Examinant lately had in *Chancery*, this Examinant deſired that he might have the Cuſtody of the ſaid Lord *Keeper* a little while to make him ſenſible of his unkindneſs to this Examinant, but this Examinant never deſigned or deſired to Kill the ſaid Lord *Keeper* or any other perſon, nor would have had his Hands in any Mans Blood.

And this Examinant further ſaith that *Ferguſon* lately told this Examinant that Mr. *Cromwel*, Son of *Richard Cromwel*, who uſually goes by the name of Mr. *Cranbourn* was ſo vain as to endeavour to make a Party for himſelf or his Father in the City: And *Goodenough* formerly, *viz.* about *Chriſtmaſs* laſt told this Examinant that he believed the ſaid Mr. *Cromwel* and Mr. *Ireton* the Son of Lieutenant General *Ireton* would aſſiſt in the intended Aſſaſſination of the King and Duke in Perſon.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that Mr. *Goodenough* told this Examinant that he had ſpoken to one *Partridge* a *Shoemaker* and *Almanack-Maker* in *Covent-Garden* to Act in this Aſſaſſination, and that the ſaid *Partridge* offered to joyn in it if it were to be done in Town but was not able to Ride and therefore would not joyn in the Attempt out of *London*: And further ſaid that the ſaid *Partridge* had erected ſeveral Schemes and thereby found the Duke of *York* would

would ſcarce out-live *March* or *April*, and that the King was under an ill Direction too, and the People would be Victorious. And Mr. *Ryley* told this Examinant the ſame thing as to the Schemes erected by *Partridge*.

And this Examinant further ſaith that Col. *Romzey* told this Examinant that when Mr. *Trenchard* refuſed to go into the Weſt and raiſe a Force for the intended Inſurrection in *November* laſt, the ſaid Mr. *Trenchard* was ſent for to the Duke of *Monmouth*'s Houſe about it, and there were preſent the ſaid Duke, the Lord *Gray* and Col. *Romzey*: And further told this Examinant that the Lord *Ruſſel* had prepared to go the then next Morning to his Poſt which was ſomewhere in the Weſt, but this Examinant doth not remember the place.

And this Examinant further ſaith that after the Diſcovery, *Walcot* told this Examinant, Col. *Romzey*, *Wade*, *Norton*, *Nelthrop*, *Goodenough* and *Ferguſon*, that notwithſtanding the ſaid Diſcovery he was perſuaded God would yet deliver this Nation, but he did not approve of the preſent Inſtruments who had undertaken it, or uſed words to that purpoſe.

And this Examinant further ſaith that he having a Son lately Born deſired Col. *Romzey* to be Godfather, who ſaid he would not, except he might name him *Brutus*, but was afterwards prevailed with to do that Office, and give the name of *John* to the Child being the ſaid Colonels own Chriſtian name.

Rob. Weſt.

The further Information of Robert Weſt *of the* Middle-Temple *Barriſter at Law.*

THis Examinant upon further recollection ſaith, that *Ferguſon* formerly *viz.* ſoon after his return from *Holland* told this Examinant that Dr. *Owen* and one Mr. *Collins* either an Anabaptiſt or Independent Preacher were the moſt ſenſible Miniſters about the Town, and were both of Opinion that the intended Aſſaſſination and Inſurrection were both lawful and neceſſary, and that Colonel *Owen* Dr. *Owens* Brother was Privy to them and joyned with Colonel *Sidney* and Major *Wildman* in the management of the Treaty with the Scots, and that one Mr. *Mead* a Nonconformiſt Miniſter was Zealous in the buſineſs of an Inſurrection but was not for beginning it in *London*, and Mr. *Nelthrop* told this Examinant the ſame thing of *Mead*, and that he was able to Raiſe a thouſand Men or more.

And this Examinant further ſaith that Mr. *Nelthrop* told this Examinant that in caſe of an Inſurrection which he much deſired, he would go along with the Lord *Ruſſel* whereſoever he took his Poſt.

Poſt and would furniſh out himſelf and a Man with able Horſes and Arms and a good ſumm of Mony.

And this Examinant further ſaith, that upon a diſcourſe with Colonel *Rumzey* concerning a General Inſurrection, the ſaid Colonel told this Examinant that if he could have a thouſand reſolute Fellows to follow him and an other thouſand Men to ſecure him at his back he would undertake to drive the King, all the Court and the Guards out of Town ſo as they ſhould not dare to look back till they were fled to *Windſor*.

And this Examinant further ſaith that the Mony which this Examinant received from *Ferguſon* amounting to ſomething more than the Arms bought by this Examinant coſt, this Examinant by the direction of Colonel *Romzey* paid Five pounds to Mr. *Wade* to give to one *Manning* who was to have been one of the Aſſaſſinates, and alſo in the laſt deſigned Inſurrection to pay ſome Debts which *Manning* owed, and the ſaid Colonel *Romzey*, Mr. *Wade* and Mr. *Norton* gave *Manning* a Guinny or 20 *s.* apiece more. And the ſaid *Wade* asking this Examinant whether he would perſonally engage in the laſt intended Inſurrection, and this Examinant ſaying his infirm Conſtitution was not able to bear the toyl of a Soldiers life, Mr. *Wade* told this Examinant, then he muſt fit out ſome Men that would, and that this Examinant ſhould give his Blunderbuſs to *Manning* who was a ſtrong ſtout Fellow able to carry it, which this Examinant agreed to, and to fit out two Foot Souldiers, or do any thing elſe was fit for him to do.

And this Examinant further ſaith that at one of the laſt meetings for Raiſing the three thouſand Men out of the City and Suburbs, Mr. *Bourn* reported he had communicated the buſineſs to Mr. *Lobb* a Nonconformiſt Parſon, who had a Congregation of poor Zealous Men, and that Mr. *Lobb* embraced it readily, and promiſed to employ two truſty Men of his Congregation to go amongſt the reſt and engage as many as they could. And this Examinant further ſaith, that *Ferguſon* had four ſeveral Lodgings during this Examinants Correſpondence with him, at three of which this Examinant viſited him, *viz.* at Mr. *Bourns* the Brewer, at Mr. *Owens* a Lawyer living at the further end of *King-ſtreet* in *New-Southampton* Buildings, and at a Cutlers over againſt *Wills* Coffee-Houſe in *Covent-Garden*, his fourth Lodging was in St. *Martins-Lane* in the Fields at a Dutch Doctors, or *German* Quacks, which this Examinant never was at, and knows not the name of.

And this Examinant further ſaith that Colonel *Romzey* Diſcourſing with this Examinant further concerning the Duke of *Monmouth*, told this Examinant the Duke was inclinable to anſwer the Peoples expectations, and to ſubmit to be little more than a Duke of *Venice*, but the Lords about him and *Armſtrong* deſigned Great Offices to themſelves and will not endure to hear of Terms, but cry all ſhall be left to a Parliament, whereupon this Examinant ſaying to him, it were but juſt to diſcover all their Intrigues, but the being an Informer is an ugly thing, Colonel *Romzey* Replyed, it is true our People are not worth venturing for and the other People are not worth ſaving, beſides it would give a great Blow to the Proteſtant intereſt all the World over. And further ſaith not.

Robert Weſt.

The

The Examination of William Hone *Joyner taken before Sir* William Turner *Knight and Alderman of the City of* London, *and one of his Majesties Juſtices of the Peace the* 4th. *day of* July, 1683.

THis Examinant ſaith that about the Fire time at *Newmarket* Mr. *Richard Goodenough* came to him to *Cliffords-Inn* where he was at Work at one Mr. *Cark*'s Chamber, and ask'd him to go along with him and told him he wanted ſome Labourers; This Examinant then asked him if it were honeſt? Upon which Mr. *Goodenough* clucht his Fiſt and ſtruck it towards his Mouth twice or thrice and told him it was to ſeiſe the King and the Duke, and that there would be 20 *l.* apiece to buy Horſe and Arms. This Examinant then told him he was well ſettled in his Trade and did not care to trouble himſelf. He then further told this Examinant that they had taken care to ſecure the City, and then they appointed to meet the next day at the *Amſterdam* Coffee-Houſe, where they met together, and from thence they two went to one *Sergeants* a Cooks-ſhop at the Sign of the *Roe-Buck* at the Corner of *Bartholomew-Lane* where they Dined, and whilſt they were there, there came in one *Keeling* and one *Rombald* who had but one Eye, and after ſome Diſcourſe Mr. *Keeling* ſaid let us go, and Mr. *Goodenough* ſaid we want Clothes, Mr. *Keeling* replied he had Clothes for half a dozen, and further ſaid let us make what we can and go, Mr. *Goodenough* anſwered no, and pointing to *Rombald* ſaid, there is one knows the temper of the People better. This Examinant further ſaith that Mr. *Goodenough*, Mr. *Rombald* and Mr. *Keeling* went from thence to a Tavern in *Bartholomew-Lane* where this Examinant came to them, but heard no Diſcourſe at that time but drank and went his way.

This Examinant further ſaith that a Fortnight after *Whitſontide* he met Mr. *Joſeph Keeling* and his Brother in *Threadneedle-Street* near the *Exchange* and they would needs Drink with him, and he went with them to the *Flanders* Coffee-Houſe, and then Mr. *Joſias Keeling* told him his Brother was a ſtout Man and could bring together thirty Men for his ſhare, and then they went all three into a Room above-ſtairs, and then Mr. *Joſias Keeling* ſaid theſe words to him, *You know the buſineſs of the Rye*, this Examinant at that time knew the meaning of the *Rye*, but not the place they called the *Rye*: And they being three together they fell into Diſcourſe concerning the King and the Duke of *York*, and how they ſhould diſpoſe of them and depoſe the King, and they being hot in this diſcourſe this Examinant ſaid he was for ſaving the Duke and ſecuring the King, afterwards the two *Keelings* ſent this Examinant to look for *Goodenough* and told him they muſt needs ſpeak with him preſently, and after this Examinant had been from place to place to find him,

and miſſing of him he returned back to the Tavern where he found the ſaid two *Keelings* and *Goodenough* and ſome others who this Examinant doth not know; and there the ſaid *Goodenough* and both the ſaid *Keelings* retired into a private Room, but what paſſed between them this Examinant doth not know neither hath he ſeen them ſince. This Examinant further ſaith that about *Michaelmas* laſt was twelve Month as he remembers Mr. *Goodenough* ſpoke to him to make a private place between his Roof and the Ceeling Joiſts of his Houſe with intent as he told this Examinant to put Money in it becauſe the Times were dangerous. So this Examinant cut the Rafters and untyled part of the Houſe and made ſuch a private place, and made a Frame and a Door for a Man to go in, and the Bricklayer Tyled it over and over the Door, but what uſe the ſaid *Goodenough* afterward made of it this Examinant knows not. This Examinant ſaith that the Perſons engaged in this Conſpiracy are Mr. *Richard* and *Francis Goodenough*, Mr. *Rober Weſt*, the two *Rombalds*, and one *Adderton* a Glaſier, and *Lee* a Dyar, and both the *Keelings*, and a Crape-Weaver who lives about *Chiſwel-Street*.

This Examinant ſaith that he hath work'd for the ſaid Mr. *Weſt* at his Chamber in the Temple, and one day meeting him in *Fleet-Street* he asked this Examinant if the Ball were once up whether Gameſters would come in in four or five Hours time? This Examinant replied he thought they would. And at another time being at Work at his Chamber they fell into diſcourſe together concerning the Depoſing of the King and the Duke, and words to that purpoſe, but what the particular words were he doth not well remember. This Examinant ſaith that to the beſt of his remembrance as he was Drinking with Mr. *Lee* at the *Kings-Head* Tavern in *Chancery-Lane* about a Fortnight after *Whitſontide* laſt, the ſaid Mr. *Lee* told him there was a Captain of a Ship would appoint the hurling of a Silver Ball at *Blackheath*, which would draw a great Company of People together, and then he would give them Brandy and then they would go and ſeiſe on the *Tower*.

This Examinant further ſaith that he being at Work at one Mr. *Percivals* at *Chipenham* where the ſaid *Adderton* the Glaſier was alſo taking order to Work, the ſaid *Adderton* asked this Examinant if Mr. *Goodenough* had ſaid any thing to him about the Buſineſs? This Examinant asked him what Buſineſs? The ſaid *Adderton* replied he had told *Lee* of it, and that was all paſſed between them.

Will. Hone.

Capt. & Cognit. coram me Die & Anno præſen.

Will. Turner.

In-

Information of William Leigh.

I Do declare that my firſt acquaintance with Mr. *Rowſe* and Mr. *Lee* was by reaſon of Captain *Blagg* and his Buſineſs to go his Mate, and the firſt time that ever Mr. *Rowſe* ſpoke any thing to me about the Plot, was one day I met him by the *Exchange*; He told me he had ſomething to ſay to me; and to the beſt of my remembrance he asked me preſently after, if I did know of any Seamen that were fitting to make Captains in *Wapping*: I told him No, but I would ſee what I could do; and he promiſed, he and Mr. *Lee* to come to the *Blew Anchor* by *Wapping* Dock next morning about Ten a Clock but came not: Another day, he and Mr. *Lee* came down and diſcourſed with ſome of Mr. *Rowſe*'s Friends that he met, but they did not like his way and ſo parted.

And the firſt time that ever I heard of toſſing up of a Ball was by Captain *Blagg*, but I do declare I knew not the meaning of it till Mr. *Lee* and Mr. *Rowſe* asked me about taking the *Tower*; and whereas he or Mr. *Lee*, or Mr. *Rowſe*, or both, asked me about toſſing up of a Ball, as I take it on *Black Heath*: I asked what they would do there? They told me there was ſome Hundreds of Horſe ready in the Country; and as for Captain *Blagg*, I heard him ſay that Mortar-pieces over *Southwark* ſide would be the beſt way for the taking of the *Tower*; and I have heard him ſay, as near as I can remember, he could raiſe ſome Seamen, but the number I have forgot; and all that Mr. *Lee* ſpoke before the King and Council in my hearing was true. All this I am willing to atteſt; and for knowing of any others beſides Mr. *Lee* and Mr. *Rowſe* and Captain *Blagg* to be concerned in this Plot, I know not, neither can I call to mind any words ſpoken by any but thoſe three.

William Leigh.

The further Information of William Leigh.

Shall it pleaſe your Majeſty,

SInce I ſent in my Paper, I have ſent ſomething more which came in my Mind ſince, That is about getting ſome Seamen that might be fitting to go Commanders or Captains of Ships; and as he asked if I could not get two or three; ſometime afterwards I did enquire what he would do with them, he told me to make Maſters of Ships.

I asked for what end? He told me to put in Ships at *Deptford* or *Woolwich*, that is Men of War to make Guard Ships to ſtop all going and coming: I did ask him what he would do with them when there was no Guns nor Powder nor Shot on board; but I told him if he had the *Tower* then he might do ſomething: but his Anſwer was, if not then, ſome time after that, ſays he, Mr. *Rous* by Name we muſt ſecure the *Tower* and *White-Hall* both together, or elſe there could be nothing done: For, ſays he, we muſt take the King and then our work is done, to the beſt of my remembrance: I asked what was then his *Oath of Allegiance?* He told me if they had the King he ſhould be King ſtill, but fight under his Commiſſion. I do think Mr. *Lee* was there preſent.

Will. Leigh.

Infor

Information of the Lord Howard *to the King, the* 11th *of* July 1682.

The First Part of my Narrative being a Summary Account of all that Occurred to my Knowledg from September 29th 1682. *to the time of the Earl of* Shaftsbury's *Death.*

ABout the middle of *September* 1682. I had occaſion to go to a ſmall Eſtate at *Tolibury* in the County of *Eſſex*, where I continued about a Fortnight waiting to hear of the ultimate iſſue and reſult of the long conteſted Election of the Sheriffs of *London*, which was ſhortly to receive a final Determination by the Swearing of the new Sheriffs into their Office.

During which time of my continuance in the Country I received two or three Letters from Captain *Walcot*, importing in a myſterious Stile, well enough underſtood by me, that the matters of Negotiation betwixt me and the Merchant my Correſpondent were brought to a good Concluſion, and that my preſence was ſpeedily deſired for the better perfecting the ſame.

Upon the 29th, of *September* (being the day which put an end to the long Diſpute about the Sheriffs) I returned to my Houſe at *Knightsbridge*, where I had not been above two or three days before I received a Viſit from Captain *Walcot*, who acquainted me that the Earl of *Shaftsbury* had withdrawn himſelf from his own Houſe into a Retirement in the City, where (though he was ſecreted from moſt of his Friends yet) he deſired to ſee me, for which purpoſe his Lordſhip had ſent him to me to ſhew me the way to his Lodging.

I preſently cloſed with the Invitation, and went along with him to one Mr. *Watſons* Houſe about the further end of *Woodſtreet* (reckoning from *Cheapſide*) where I found his Lordſhip alone, who immediately begun to adviſe me in this manner, *viz.*

That finding the due Election of the City fruſtrated by the Pſeudo-Sheriffs forcibly obtruded upon them, he could no longer think himſelf ſafe (though Innocent) in the future adminiſtration of Juſtice which muſt hereafter be expected to be wreſted by ſuch Miniſters to the Humour of the Court, but this Danger threatned not him only, but me alſo, and all honeſt Men in *England*, in the ſenſe whereof he had thought it neceſſary for him (and believed it no leſs neceſſary for me) to withdraw himſelf into the City, where he had made ſuch preparations (meeting with a diſpoſed matter) that he did not doubt but in a ſhort time he ſhould be able to reduce things to a better poſture: That in order hereunto there were ſeveral Thouſands (I think he mentioned 10000) who were ready upon Notice given to betake themſelves to Arms. Firſt to make themſelves Maſters of

the City, and afterward Sally out and Attack the Guards at *White-Hall*, that they were to be aſſiſted with about a 1000 or 1200 Horſe to be drawn inſenſibly into Town from ſeveral adjacent parts of the Country under the Conduct of ſeveral good Officers, amongſt whom he made mention of Major *Bremen* (and of him only) but there was nothing hindred the putting of this into ſpeedy Execution but the Backwardneſs of the Duke of *Monmouth* and the Lord *Ruſſel* (to whom were affixt the Lord *Grey*, the Lord *Brandon*, Sir *Henry Ingoldsby*, and ſeveral other Gentlemen who would not ſtir without the Duke) who had unhandſomely failed him after their promiſe given him to be Concurrent with him in the like undertaking (at the ſame time) in *Devonſhire*, *Sommerſetſhire*, *Cheſhire*, *Lancaſhire*, and other Counties to give variety of Diverſion to the ſtanding Forces; That the Lord *Grey* ſeemed to be more forward then than the reſt to joyn with him, with whom (if he could be gained) he intended to Couple me for the raiſing of *Eſſex*, and that the Lord *Herbert* and Colonel *Romzey* would be aſſiſtant to him in the Conduct of the City Affairs, together with very many Eminent Citizens who deſired to have their Names ſpared till the time of Action, with many other particulars too long to be enumerated in this ſhort Summary.

To all this I anſwered, That I was glad to hear and was willing to take it upon his Credit, that the City was in as great a readineſs for Action as he had expreſt; and that there would be ſo conſiderable a Body of Horſe brought out of the Country for their Aid as he had intimated, nor did I doubt but he had prudently provided for all the requiſites to ſo great an undertaking. But withal that I could not but be much ſurprized to hear that there ſhould be ſo great a miſunderſtanding betwixt him and thoſe Noble Lords whoſe Concurrence I thought abſolutely neceſſary for ſo great a Work, that if they had failed him (as he had related) after an appointment made, they had acted very unſuitably to the Character they bore, and would deſervedly forfeit the opinion was had of them, that I muſt be allowed the Liberty to diſcourſe with them about it and till then to ſuſpend as well my Cenſure of them as the Reſignation of my ſelf to him in the matters propounded by him; upon theſe terms I parted from him promiſing to ſee him again within a day or two.

The next day I went to *Moor-Park*, where the Duke of *Monmouth* then was and in ſhort acquainted him with what I had heard, as well concerning himſelf as the Lord *Ruſſel*, &c. He abſolutely denied that he, or (as he believed) my Lord *Ruſſel* had ever made any ſuch appointment with my Lord *Shaftsbury*, that they were altogether Ignorant of what was doing by the ſaid Earl, who for ſome time (upon what *Capricio* he knew not) had withdrawn himſelf from them and acted upon ſeparate Councils of his own grounded (as he feared) upon the haſty Conceptions of ſome Hot-headed Men, who might lead him into ſome untimely undertaking, which in all probability would prove fatal to himſelf and all the Party: For prevention of which he ſaid he would be glad (if he knew where) to give him a Meeting, and to reſettle a better underſtanding with him.

Having had this Account from the Duke I made a ſecond Viſit the next day (being *Thurſday* the 3d or 4th of *October*) to the ſaid Earl,

to

to whom I communicated what had paſſed the day before betwixt the Duke and me, and thereupon took occaſion to ſtrengthen my ſelf with Arguments of the abſolute neceſſity of a ſpeedy Conference betwixt him and the other Lords as well for the removing the preſent miſapprehenſions they had of each other, as alſo for the Conſolidating them into ſuch an Union and Concert of Councils as might render them all joyntly helpful to the Common Intereſt by an harmonious and uniform Acting to the ſame end in which they did all agree however they might differ in the means. This I urged upon him with all the vehemency that the nature and importance of the thing required, but he ſtill perſiſted in a refuſal of a Meeting, ſaying with ſome more than ordinary warmth, That he had long diſcovered in the Duke a backwardneſs to Action, by which they had loſt great opportunities, that he had cauſe to ſuſpect that this artificial dilatorineſs of the Duke proceeded from a private agreement betwixt his Father and him to ſave one another. That People (ſo he termed that Imaginary Army in the City) were impatient of longer delays, having advanced ſo far already that they could not ſafely retreat: The intention of an Inſurrection being communicated to ſo many that it was morally impoſſible to keep it from taking Air if it was not ſpeedily brought into Act, that one of his Friends (whom I afterwards underſtood to be *Rombald*) had drawn almoſt an Hundred Horſe into *London* by ſmall and unobſervable Parties a little before *Michaelmas* Day, who (after they had continued here a good while at their Expence) were again retired to their reſpective places of Abode; That ſuch frequent Diſappointments would weary the Party and flat their Spirits and make them at laſt reſolve to ſit down in a total Deſpondency; But it was much to be feared the Duke acted with a Proſpect very different from theirs, he deſigning nothing more than the Advancing himſelf whilſt they could not hope that ever their Liberties ſhould be well ſecured for the future, but under the Government of a Commonwealth: That for theſe Reaſons he was fully determined to be no longer expectant upon the Duke's Motions, but would purſue his former intentions of Attempting the deliverance of his Country by the help of an honeſt Brisk party in the City, with whom if the reſt of the Lords would be co-operating they might ſhare with him in the glory of ſo honourable an Undertaking, but if they would not he hoped he ſhould be able to effect the Work without them.

Howard.

July 11. 83.

This was this Subſtance of the ſecond Conference I had with him, which I reported the next day to the Duke, who deſired me to make one Aſſay more to procure an Interview.

This occaſioned my going to the ſaid Earl a third time upon Saturday the 5th or 6th of *October*, at which time I did prevail with him to give me a promiſe of meeting the Duke and my Lord *Ruſſel* the next day in the Evening, but in ſtead of coming, he ſent his Excuſe

cuſe both to the Duke and me, the next morning by Colonel *Romſey*, and ſtreightway removed to another Lodging, where he continued to ſecret himſelf till the time of his departure out of *England*.

During the time of his Concealment, divers intimations were given, ſome to me by Captain *Walcot*, others by others to the Duke of Days appointed for their intended Inſurrections; One appointment was about the later end of *October* at which time the Kings return from *Newmarket* was expected; but this was prevented by the Duke, who prevailed with them to put it off to a longer day in expectation of a Concurrence of the Country with them.

This Adjournment (as I remember) was for a Fortnight, at which time returns from the Country gave Diſcouragement to the proceedings.

After this the ſecond of *November* was made a day peremptory, as I have been informed, but that alſo was put off I know not upon what Diſappointment, which often Failures cauſed the ſaid Earl to take reſolutions of Conveying himſelf beyond the Seas, which he did accordingly.

Whilſt theſe things were in Agitation, I have ſeveral times had ſome dark Hints given me from Captain *Walcot*, from *Goodenough*, from *Weſt*, from *Ferguſon*, of Striking at the Head, of ſhortning the Work by removing two Perſons, by which I did apprehend that there was a deſign of making ſome Attempt upon the King and the Duke, or one of them; but when and where, and by whom, and in what manner and place this was to be acted, I never ſaw.

This ends the Tranſactions during the Life of the Earl of *Shafts-bury*, the reſt ſhall be made a Second Part.

Howard.

July 11. 1683.

A Continuation of my former Narrative.

AFter the Death of the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, it was conſidered, That as there had appeared both in City and Country a very prompt and forward diſpoſition to Action; So it might juſtly be feared that either the minds of Men might (in time) ſtagnate into a dull Inactivity, unleſs proper Acts were uſed to keep up the fermentation, or (which was equally dangerous) that the unadviſed paſſions of a Multitude might precipitate them into ſome raſh and ill-guided undertakings, unleſs they were under the ſteering and direction of ſome ſteady and skilful hand. For prevention of both theſe Evils, it was thought neceſſary that ſome few perſons ſhould be united into a Cabal

a Cabal or Council, which ſhould be as a concealed Spring both to give and to guide the motion of the Machine.

The perſons deſigned to this general Care were the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Lord *Ruſſel*, the Earl of *Eſſex*, Mr. *Algernoon Sidney*, Mr. *Hambden* Junior, and another whoſe Abilities and Qualifications did in no degree fit him for ſuch a Province.

The firſt meeting of theſe Six was about the middle of *January* at Mr. *Hambdens* Houſe, at which Conſultation there was only propounded ſome General Heads, which were afterwards (upon more mature thoughts) to be Debated, *viz.* Where the Inſurrection ſhould be firſt made, whether in the City or in the more remote parts of the Country, or in both at the ſame inſtant; what Counties were thought to be beſt diſpoſed to, and beſt fitted for this enterprize; what Perſons in the reſpective Counties were the moſt uſeful and moſt ready to be engaged; what Towns eaſieſt to be gained, and the moſt proper for a general Rendezvous; what Arms were neceſſary to be provided, how to be got, where to be diſpoſed, what ſum of Money was of abſolute neceſſity to anſwer publick occaſions; how and by what Methods ſuch a ſum of Money was to be raiſed ſo as not to draw into obſervation, nor to adminiſter occaſion of Jealouſie: And laſtly, which was the principal and thought to challenge the chiefeſt Care, how *Scotland* might be drawn into a Concert with *England* and which Perſons there fitteſt to be Conſulted withal about this matter.

This was the ſum of that days Conference.

The ſecond Meeting was about 10 days after, at the Lord *Ruſſels* Houſe, where were preſent every one of the foreſaid Six.

At this Meeting it was propounded that a ſpeedy underſtanding ſhould be ſettled with the Lord *Argile*, and that in order thereunto ſome fit Perſon or Perſons ſhould be thought of to be ſent to him, and to be a conſtant *medium* of Correſpondence betwixt him and them that care ſhould be taken to be rightly informed of a true ſtate of *Scotland*, of the general Bent and Inclination of the People, of the capacities or incapacities they were under, and that ſome truſty Meſſenger ſhould be forthwith diſpatched thither to invite two or three of the moſt valuable Gentlemen of that Country into *England* to the end they might be adviſed with about the general Deſign.

The perſons nominated to be called into *England*, were the Lord *Melvin*, Sir *John Cockran*, and I remember another Gentleman of the Family and Alliance of the Lord *Argile*, who (if I miſtake not) was of the ſame Name alſo, and a Knight, but of this I retein but an indiſtinct remembrance.

Some other things were conſidered of, but of no great moment.

At the concluſion of this meeting it was agreed, that there ſhould not be any other meeting of this Cabal (unleſs in caſe of ſome extraordinary Emergency) until the return of the Meſſenger ſent from hence, and the arrival of the foreſaid Gentlemen out of *Scotland*.

This affording a kind of Vacation I ſoon after went into *Eſſex* whether I was called by the Concerns of my Eſtate, after that I went to *Bath* whither I was enforced to go by the Infirmity of my health, ſo that what was done or argued on after this, I can give no account but by hearſay.

Howard.

July 11. 1683.

A Supplement of ſome things which (upon recollection) have occurr'd to my memory ſince my former Information.

I Remember that my Lord *Shaftsbury* complaining of divers perſons who had deſerted him and fell ſhort of their Engagements to him, amongſt the reſt named his Couſin *Charleton* (meaning Mr. *Charleton* of *Totteridg*) who (he ſaid) had promis'd and was able to bring in great aſſiſtance to him, upon which he did much rely, but was quite fallen from him, and had ſo wholly attacht himſelf to the Duke of *Monmouth* and my Lord *Ruſſel* that he would act only by their meaſure.

Speaking alſo of Major *Wildman*, He ſaid that he was very forward in the work, and very active in it; And being told by me, that amongſt other things which were wanting in ſuch Enterprize, the want of ſome Great Guns ſeemed to me not to be the leaſt. He told me that they ſhould be furniſhed with two Drakes by a Friend (whom he did not name) which two Drakes I have ſince thought may be thoſe two ſmall Pieces found with Major *Wildman*.

The Perſon mentioned in my former Narrative who (as my Lord *Shaftsbury* ſaid) had offered to kill the Duke with his own hands, I do now diſtinctly remember to be Mr. *John Ayloffe*, to whom he Anſwered [*No* Jack *thou ſhalt not kill him till we have an Arm'd Force to Juſtifie it.*]

About the 10th or 12th of *October* after a ſtop put to the then intended Inſurrection, the Duke of *Monmouth* told me that he had ſeriouſly thought of it (meaning the Inſurrection) and that after divers ways propoſed and ſeriouſly conſidered of he was clearly of Opinion that there was nothing ſo eaſie to be accompliſhed, nor ſo probable to do the Work effectually as to fall in upon the King at *Newmarket* with a ſmart party of Horſe of about Forty or Fifty, which he ſaid he could ſoon have in a readineſs. To which I anſwered, That I was of the ſame opinion, but whether or not it would be decent for him to appear in perſon in an Attack to be made when the King was in Perſon deſerved his conſideration. Two days after I ſpoke to him of it again, and ask'd him what thought he had of it; He anſwered me that it could not be brought about ſoon enough. After which

which I never Diſcourſed more with him about it; but upon reflection I am apt to think that from this time and not before the Deſign of Way-laying the King in his return to *London* was firſt meditated, and I am the more confirmed in this Opinion from the Conſideration of the behaviour of the Duke of *Monmouth* and Lord *Grey* who ſeemed to be very big of Expectation of ſome great thing to be attempted upon the day of the King's coming from *Newmarket*, upon which day (as I have before obſerved) Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* was not to be found till the King's Coaches were come into Town, and I do verily believe he was to have headed the Party. To this alſo may be added, That the Duke of *Monmouth* within few days after told me that he had that day given order to have his Horſes carried into *London* to have been in a readineſs to have Mounted upon any Emergency.

I do further call to mind, That there is a conſiderable Perſon living in *Spittle-Fields* whom I very well know, and have often been in his Company (but cannot remember his name diſtinctly) this Man I have been told did undertake to bring in two or three Hundred Men upon the ſtrength of his own Intereſt when occaſion ſhould require; He is well known to Mr. *Weſt*.

Howard.

Further

Further Information of Colonel Romzey, *June the* 11*th.* 1684.

SIR *Thomas Armſtrong* was at the Meeting at Mr. *Shepards* when I was there, and was one that undertook to view the *Savoy* and *Mews* to ſee in what poſture the Souldiers were and how eaſy or difficult it would be to ſurprize them.

Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* did tell me that *Gibbons* came to him and acquainted him that Mr. *Roe* and he had been to ſee the Earl of *Bedfords Garden* and told him that was a fit place to take off the King and Duke at, but in other Terms which now I have forgot.

Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* did come to me the Sunday night after the Fire at *Newmarket* and told me that he juſt came from *Ferguſon*, and that notwithſtanding they returned ſo ſoon *Ferguſon* did not doubt to have Men ready by that time to do the buſineſs and deſired me to go with him to *Fergusons* Lodging in his Coach which I did, when I came there *Ferguſon* told me the ſame but that they wanted Mony, Mr. *Charleton* not being to be found, upon which Sir *Thomas* deſired me to lend ſome and he would ſee me repaid and ſaid if he had been in ſtock he would have done it himſelf; upon their perſwaſion I went to my Houſe I think in Sir *Thomas* his Coach and brought forty Guinnies; he again repeated that he would ſee me repaid; ſeveral times after he told me *Ferguſon* had my Mony and wondred I would not go to him to receive it.

After the Diſcovery Sir *Thomas* came one night and told me he wondred I was not gone and did importune me to be gone with the firſt and in the mean time to keep cloſe for that I was mightily hunted after.

J. Romzey.

A Letter from Sir *William Stapleton*, Governor of the *Leeward Iſlands*, to Sir *Leoline Jenkins*.

Nevis Jan. 25*th.* 1685.

Right Honourable,

WHAT *now offers to inform your Honour is that having ſeen the Kings Proclamation and a Liſt in Print of the Conſpirators in the laſt Moſt Deteſtable Plot; I found one* James Holloway *Merchant therein ſpecified fled and Indicted, who went by another Name*, viz. John Milward, *whom I have cauſed to be ſecured in order to ſend him home by the next good opportunity, which is by one Captain* John Wilkinſon *Commander of the Ship* Joſeph *of* London *a good Sailer.*

William Stapleton.

The

The Information of James Holloway *Read the* 11*th of* April 1684.

Great SIR,

I Your Majeſties moſt humble, but too much miſled, and diſobedient Subject do here moſt faithfully, according to the beſt of my Remembrance, give you an Account of what I knew concerning the late diſcovered Conſpiracy, how I came to be concerned; how far I was concerned; how it was to have been carried on in *Briſtol*: why I did not come in at the firſt Diſcovery, and caſt my ſelf at your Majeſties Feet for Mercy; how I made my eſcape, and where I was till taken. If I ſhall through forgetfulneſs omit any thing that it may be thought I am privy to, I ſhall be ready and willing truly to anſwer any queſtion that ſhall be asked by your Majeſty, or any your moſt Honorable Privy-Council, no way deſpairing of your Majeſties Mercy, but remain in hopes that that Fountain of Mercy which hath ſo abundantly flowed from your Sacred Breaſt ever ſince your happy Reſtauration is not yet Dry, and that there is ſome drops left for me, who doubt not but to Serve your Majeſty both at home and abroad, much more Living than my Death will.

That which I have cauſe to impute the occaſion of my being Concerned, was my too Publick Spirit, preferring your Majeſties and my Countries Intereſt much before my own, but eſpecially in attending the two laſt Parliaments, promoting an Act for the encouragement of the *Linnen Manufacture*, and the preventing of Frauds in your Majeſties Cuſtomes, &c. Which would have brought in, and ſaved to your Majeſty near 200000 *l. per An.* and employed many Thouſands of Poor, &c. as is well known to many Worthy Perſons about your Court, and indeed proved my Ruine, otherwiſe than in this Concern, by bringing me into too great Acquaintance for one of my Capacity, and by that to be concerned as I was. My Attendance on thoſe two Parliaments I doubt have been miſ-repreſented.

How far I was Concerned.

After the Diſſolution of the two laſt Parliaments, I obſerved a great diſſatisfaction in People in moſt parts where I travelled, but heard nothing of any Deſign till *July* 1682. when one Mr. *Joſeph Tyly* of *Briſtol* came from *London*; I meeting with him, asked what News, he anſwered to this effect, all bad, and if ſome ſpeedy courſe be not taken we ſhall be all undone, for by their Arbitrary, Illegal ways and by force of Arms they have got Sheriffs to their Minds, Witneſſes they had before, but wanted Jurors to believe them, now they have got Sheriffs, naming Mr. *North* and Mr. *Rich*, who will find Jurors to believe any Evidence againſt a Proteſtant, and ſo hang up all the Kings Friends by degrees; I then told him that I thought it was impoſ-

ſible ſuch things could be done, but the King muſt hear of it; no ſaid he, there's none ſuffered to come near the King, but thoſe who have been declared Enemies to the King and Kingdom by Parliament, naming ſome that were mentioned in the Printed Votes, who to ſave themſelves do indeavour to keep all ſuch things from the Kings knowledge, and perſwade him againſt Parliaments, with much more ſuch-like diſcourſe, by which I found the ſame was diſcourſed throughout *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland* as a means to engage People. At length he told me that the Proteſtant Gentry, naming the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrick* and others were come to a Reſolution, ſeeing fair means would not do, but all things on the Proteſtants ſide are miſrepreſented to the King by ſuch great Criminals, and none more in favor than thoſe, to take the King from his Evil Council, and that by an Inſurrection in ſeveral parts of *England* at once, *viz.* *London*, *Briſtol*, *Taunton*, *Exeter*, *Cheſter*, *New-Caſtle*, *York*, and ſome other places in the *North*, and that there would be a conſiderable party ready in *Scotland*, and another in *Ireland*, therefore ſaid he, we muſt conſider how to manage affairs in *Briſtol*, for if they proceed at *Michaelmas* in chooſing Lord-Mayor as they did Sheriffs, and to ſwearing of *North* and *Rich*, it muſt begin in *October* or *November*, otherwiſe there will be ſome Sham-Plot contrived to take off moſt of the Stirring Men in the laſt Parliaments; with much other Diſcourſe to the ſame effect, adding, that Mr. *Wade* would come down very ſuddenly, by whom we might expect a full Account of all. About the end of *Auguſt* as near as I can remember, Mr. *Wade* came down, who confirmed what Mr. *Tyly* had ſaid, but could ſay little as to any farther Reſolution they were come to above, either of any Time or Method agreed upon, but that the Deſign went on, and men were imployed in all parts to try how people were inclined, who found enough ready and that there would be no want of Men, if it was once begun. Then we conſidered how it might be managed in *Briſtol*, and what Number of men might be needful for the firſt Onſet; towards which he ſaid, We might depend on 150 Men from *Taunton* or thereabouts, and concluded that 350 might be ſufficient to ſecure it without the Bloodſhed of one man, it being our Deſign to ſhed no Blood if poſſible, but this we reſolved not to acquaint any of our Friends with it, till the Day and method was reſolved, of which he ſaid we ſhould have ten or fourteen days notice; and having ſoon conſidered of a Method, waited in expectation of further Advice, but none came till *November*; then we heard that ſome diſ-appointment happening they were forced to delay it, tho there was more and more cauſe for it. The end of *December* or beginning of *January* had advice that it was deferred to the beginning of *March*. The third of *March* I came to *London*, and meeting with Mr. *Wade*, asked him how things went, who anſwered that he could not tell what to make of it, for he could find nothing done more than was nine Months before. The Great Perſons who were the Managers having done nothing but talkt of things, but now there was ſome others appointed to manage it, who were Men of buſineſs naming them to me, *viz.* The Earl of *Eſſex*, the Lord *Howard* of *Eſtrick*, the Lord *Gray*, the Lord *Ruſſel*, Colonel *Sidney*, Major *Wildman*, Mr. *Hambden* the younger, and Mr. *Charlton*, who he did ſuppoſe would make ſomething of it, and not do as the others had done, make a years talk to

enſnare

enſnare many thouſands of people to no purpoſe; for theſe had already ſent Meſſengers into *Scotland* and *Ireland*, to know their minds, naming one *Aaron Smith* ſent into *Scotland*, and at the return of the Meſſengers would come to a reſolution as to time and method, but he was confident they could not be ready before *Midſummer* by reaſon they had done ſo little in order to it. Mr. *Wade* was then deſign'd into the *Weſt* upon the Earl of *Stamford's* buſineſs, and ſaid if he could underſtand any thing more before he left *London* he would take *Briſtol* in his way and acquaint us with it. This Journy he brought me to Colonel *Romzey* with whom we had little diſcourſe, he being going forth with his Lady. The ſixth of *March* I left *London*, and went directly for *Briſtol*; about the twelfth of *March* Mr. *Wade* came to *Briſtol*, but then could ſay no more than as above; the Meſſengers being not come back from *Scotland* nor *Ireland* and was of his former opinion, that if any thing were done, it could not be before *Midſummer*, he then expected to be about two Months in the Weſt, and ſaid that if any thing was agreed upon ſooner, one Mr. *Weſt* a Counceller had promiſed to write to him in the name of *Ingleſtone*, and direct his Letter to be left at his Brothers in *Briſtol*, who *Wade* ordered that if any ſuch Letter came, to open it, and if any thing material in it, to ſend it by a Meſſenger to him into the Weſt. About the 17*th.* of *March* came a Letter for him from *Weſt* in the name of *Ingleſtone*, which his Brother opened, and not underſtanding the Stile, brought it to me, but I knew not the meaning thereof. The Contents was to deſire Mr. *Wade* to get his Clients together the next *Saturday* come Fortnight, for that was the day appointed to Seal the Writings, and neither of us underſtanding it, his Brother ſent it by a Meſſenger after him, who found him at *Taunton*, and his Anſwer by the Meſſenger was, that he knew not the meaning of it, but ſhould be within ten miles of *Briſtol* the next *Saturday*, deſiring that if any other Letter came, to ſend it to him. About three day after came another Letter as above, deſiring him not to call his Clients together, for the time of Sealing was put off, which Letter was alſo ſent to him, but he underſtood it not, ſaying, it was ſome raſh buſineſs or other and ſo went back again.

The fifth of *April* I came to *London*, and that evening went to Mr. *Weſts* Chamber in the *Temple* where I found him, who then did not know me, but when I told him my Name, from whence I came, and mentioned the two Letters Mr. *Wade* received from him, he began to be ſomewhat free in Diſcourſe with me. I then told him that Mr. *Wade* and his Friends were ſurpriſed at the Letters, not knowing what he meant by them, and did deſire to know, concerning which he ſeemed a little ſhy, but after little Diſcourſe, began to tell me, ſaying, there was a Deſign to take off the King and Duke coming from *Newmarket*, which they expected would have been that *Saturday* mentioned in his Letter, had not the Fire happened, which cauſed them to come ſooner; nay, ſaid he, had we known they would have ſtayed ſo long as they did, their buſineſs ſhould have been done: I then asked him what he meant by deſiring Mr. *Wade* to get his Clients together by that day, and what he could propoſe they ſhould have done, to which he could ſay little, only that they might be ready. I then told him, that I thought it a very raſh thing, and that few in *England* would approve of it, that

I was ſure none about us would, being a moſt Cowardly dishonourable action, beſides the baſeſt ſin of Murther; then, ſaid he, what is deſigned by the General Deſign but to take them both off, and if it had been done that way, it would have prevented a great deal of Bloodſhed in the Nation; no, ſaid I, no ſuch thing is deſigned as I know of, the General Deſign being only to get the King off from his evil Counſels, who had adviſed him to put a ſtop to Proceedings againſt Popiſh Plotters by Diſſolving of Parliaments, *&c.* and to bring all Popiſh Offenders to Juſtice, and ſuch who had betrayed the Liberty of the Subject; and this I think was all the Diſcourſe we had at that time, being the firſt of my acquaintance with him: that night I went with him to a Tavern in *Fleetſtreet*, where was Captain *Norton*, *Richard Goodenough*, and one Mr. *Aylif*, who, to my knowledg, I never ſaw before nor ſince; whileſt I was with them there was no Diſcourſe of any buſineſs, but I ſoon left them together. The next day Mr. *Roe* of *Briſtol*, brought me to Mr. *Ferguſon*, at the Houſe of one Mr. *Bourne* a Brewer, but was not admitted to ſee him himſelf; *Ferguſon* then went by the Name of *Roberts*, who when I had told my Name and from whence I came, was pretty free in Diſcourſe with me, and told me the Deſign went on very well, that there were ſome *Scotiſh* Gentlemen come up, who were treating with the Managers, and did hope they would agree in few days, and come to a Reſolution both as to time and method, of which we ſhould have timely notice, but by all his diſcourſe at that time I could not perceive that he knew any thing of the *Newmarket* Deſign.

That day I had ſome diſcourſe with Colonel *Romzey* at his houſe who I found was privy to the *Newmarket* buſineſs, and his opinion was that the General Deſign would come to nothing, for he did not approve of the Managers actings, and ſaid there was nothing like the other Deſign, for that would put an end to all in a little time; then I told him that I thought none in our parts would be for it which I think was all the Diſcourſe we then had, only he promiſed that if any thing was agreed before Mr. *Wade* came up, I ſhould hear of it, ſo I took leave and went for *Briſtol* the next morning. About ten days after, hearing nothing from them, (*Ferguſon* having told me that he thought all would be agreed in four or five days, and promiſed to adviſe) I wrote to Mr. *Weſt* deſiring to know how they went on, who wrote me that they ſtill met with delays, and were come to no Concluſion, after that I heard no more till *May*. About the beginning of *May* I came up to *London* again, in Company with Mr. *Wade* and ſome other *Briſtol* Men, but when we came up, my buſineſs being in the City, and theirs about the *Temple*, we parted; after two or three days I met with Mr. *Wade*, and asked how he found things, who told me, he doubted all would prove a Sham, for he thought there was nothing intended, finding nothing materially done in order to what had been ſo long diſcourſed. Then we went to Mr. *Weſt*, and diſcourſed him fully about the Contents of his Letters, who told us, they were reſolved to kill the King and Duke as they came from *Newmarket*, in order to which, he had provided Arms for fifty Men, Piſtols, Carbines and Blunderbuſſes, and that they were promiſed the Houſe of one *Rumbald* a Maltſter, which lay in the Road, and the King muſt come by his Door, there the men

ſhould

ſhould have been Lodged. Then we asked who was to have acted it, to which he could give but a ſlender Anſwer, and could or would name but two Men, who were *Rombald* and his Brother, ſaying, if they could have raiſed ſix or eight hundred pounds to have bought Horſes, and ſomthing to encourage men, they ſhould have had men enough; ſo that we found they had few men, if more than two, and no Horſes, only a parcel of Arms, which afterwards he ſhewed us at a Gun-ſmiths Houſe in a little Lane near *Temple-Bar*. Then we asked him what they deſigned if it had taken effect, to which he anſwered, that the men ſhould have come up with all ſpeed to *London* and diſperſed themſelves immediatly, declaring for the Duke of *Monmouth*, and that the King and Duke being dead, no oppoſition could be made; then we asked who were for this Deſign, he named Colonel *Romzey* and *Richard Goodenough*, and, as far as I can remember, no more; ſo we found it was carried on by them contrary to the knowledge or approbation of thoſe who managed the General Deſign: then we declared our great diſlike of it, telling him, it was a baſe Diſhonourable and Cowardly Action, and would ſeem odious to all the World, that any pretending themſelves Proteſtants, ſhould be concerned in ſuch a Bloody Action, and that we thought it was his Cowardize put him upon it; to which he ſaid, that he could not Fight, but would be as forward with his Mony as any of his Capacity. Then we went to Colonel *Romzey*, who we found to be wholly of *Weſts* Opinion, ſaying, that except ſomething be done that way, I know nothing will be done at all, for he knew the other Managers would do nothing; ſo we had little Diſcourſe at that time. After this we went to *Ferguſon*, who told us how things ſtood; we then found that he knew of both Deſigns, but was only for the Inſurrection, and told us, that the Managers had been Treating with ſome *Scotch* Gentlemen; that they were almoſt agreed, and that the Mony they were to be ſupplyed with, would be ready in three or four days, being ten thouſand pounds which was to be returned to *Holland* to buy Arms, *&c.* for *Scotland*. He alſo told us that the *Scotch* Gentlemen had made another Propoſal to the Managers, thus, If they would ſupply them with thirty thouſand pounds, they would begin it in *Scotland* firſt, which they could ſoon have, and then would Invade *England*, deſiring the Managers only to get a Party in the North of *England*, ready to oppoſe any Force from coming out of *England* againſt them, before they had ſetled *Scotland*: but this was not approved of, the Managers chuſing rather to ſupply them with 10000 *l.* and to begin it in *England* the ſame time. Then we daily expected to hear when the Mony would be paid, but ſtill found nothing but delays, the Managers not agreeing how to raiſe the Mony, and that if the Mony had been ready, they were come to no Concluſion as to any method more than they were nine months before, having done nothing but talked to enſnare people, reporting about in all parts how the Liberties of the people were daily more and more infringed and that Arbitrary Government and Popery was coming in apace, which incenſed people very much and made ſuch a grumbling in all parts that we fear'd longer delays would make the common people in many parts mutiny, it being as we thought ſo gen'rally known, except ſomething was ſuddainly done, it was impoſſible it ſhould

remain undiſcovered, ſo the next time we met with *Romzey* and *Ferguſon* (tho never together) we declared our diſſatisfaction by Reaſon of ſuch long delaies, and ſpoke it ſo as that it might come to the managers Ears, as we ſuppoſe it did, being to this effect, That we thought they had only a deſign to betray people, drawing many thouſands into a ſnare, for their actions ſhewed little otherwiſe, being ſo long diſcourſing a thing of that nature and done ſo little towards it: few days after meeting with *Romzey* again, he told us they were of different opinions concerning a method, ſome for beginning the Inſurrection only in *London* and *Scotland*, ſome for it in all places at once as at firſt propoſed, others for ſeveral places in *England* and *Scotland*, and not in *London*, ſaying that if it was not begun in *London*, but in other places, there would be forces raiſed in *London* to ſend out againſt them, which would take out moſt of their ſtrength, and that then *London* might be eaſily ſecured; ſometimes they were for beginning it only in *London* and *Scotland* and to have people come up to *London* from all parts of *England*, to which we anſwered that we thought no way better than what was firſt propoſed, (*viz.*) the beginning of it in many places at once, as before mentioned, for although we had engaged none in or about *Briſtol*, nor ſhould not endeavour it till all things were concluded, yet with the aſſiſtance we were promiſed from *Taunton*, did not doubt but to get men enough to ſecure it, and that we knew not where to get ten men that would come for *London*, and ſuppoſed it might be ſo in other places, men might be willing to ſecure their own Country who would not be willing to leave all and come for *London*. *Romzey* then ſaid if he knew where to get at the head of 1000 men he would begin it preſently, and deſired that we might meet the next night with ſome others and conſider of things, ſo the next afternoon we met at *Richard*'s Coffee-Houſe near *Temple-Barr* and from thence to a Tavern near, I think called the little or young Devil Tavern, where met eight perſons, (*viz.*) Colonel *Romzey*, *Robert Weſt*, Captain *Norton*, Captain *Walcot*, *Richard Goodenough*, *Francis Goodenough*, *Nathaniel Wade* and my ſelf (this was the firſt time I knew *Walcot.*) When we were all ſit, *Colonel Romzey* ſpoke to this effect, as near as I can remember the ſame words, Gentlemen; if we can raiſe three thouſand men in and about *London*, there is a perſon of Honour will appear at the head of them and begin the buſineſs; which we ſuppoſed to be the Duke of *Monmouth*, and do not well remember whether he mentioned his name or not. Which propoſal much ſurprized Mr. *Wade* and I, that he ſhould then queſtion the raiſing of 3000 men, whereas when it was firſt mentioned to us we thought they had been ſure of many thouſands in *London* at an hours warning. Then it was conſidered how 3000 men might be raiſed and how they might do ſomething to the purpoſe: then we declared what method we had concluded on for the management of Affairs in *Briſtol*, which was as followeth, and they could think of no better way, ſo it was concluded that *London* and the Suburbs ſhould be divided into Twenty parts, and one man made choice of in each diviſion who ſhould chuſe out ten in his diviſion that he could truſt, and each of thoſe ten to find out fifteen, which would make 161 in each diviſion, ſo that twenty diviſions would produce 3220. in order to which a Map of *London* was to be bought the next day;

and

and each diviſion drawn out in a particular Paper, mentioning every Street and Lane of note in it, with the North, Eaſt, South and Weſt bounds thereof, and to be brought the next Meeting two or three nights after; at the firſt Meeting it was agreed that none ſhould know of this Deſign, *viz.* (of the chief Managers) till all the Men were ſecured, and that thoſe ſeven (I being not to ſtay long in *London*) ſhould meet every two or three nights till all was compleated. At this meeting *Romzey* and *Weſt* would be often ſaying, there was nothing like the lopping buſineſs, meaning the taking off the King and Duke, and that it might be eaſily done as they went to or from *Windſor*, or to or from the *Play-Houſe*, but I never heard any agree with him in it. Next Day a Map was bought and brought to *Weſt*'s Chamber in the *Temple*, where ſome met to divide it and draw out the diviſions againſt the next meeting. The next place we met at I think was the Caſtle-Tavern in *Fleet-ſtreet*, where ſome of the diviſions were brought, all being not done, and then it was conſider'd how they ſhould be diſtributed, being we were moſt ſtrangers, and agreed that *Richard Goodenough*, who had been Under-Sheriff, and ſo had a general Acquaintance, ſhould do it, who was willing to undertake it, the reſt of the diviſions to be ready againſt the next meeting, which was two or three Nights after at the Green-Dragon Tavern upon *Snow-Hill*, where when Mr. *Goodenough* came he told us, That he had diſpoſed of ſome of them, and did hope it would take effect, and that in a Week or ten Days he ſhould have fixed the twenty Men; the conſideration how things ſhould be manag'd, was deferred till they were ſure of the Men, only ſome mention'd their Opinions how the *Tower*, *Whitehal*, and other places might be beſt ſurpriſed. The *Tower* was thought might be beſt gained in the Day time, *Whitehal* and other places in the night, with many ſuch things in way of diſcourſe: *Romzey* was ſtill upon the old ſtrain of killing the King and the Duke, ſaying (at this the laſt meeting I was at, going for *Briſtol* next Morning) that it might be done in *Windſor-Park*, and that he would undertake it, but not except every one there preſent would go with him, to which not one conſented, I replying that I was for no ſuch thing, but ſeeing the other buſineſs had gone ſo far, and was known to ſo many, if they could bring it to bear in *London* and other places, I raſhly ſaid, rather than fail of *Briſtol* we will undertake it at Noon-Day with an Hundred Men; to which *Romzey* ſaid I was a bold Fellow; they then promiſed (when they were ſure of the Men) to adviſe and take care for ſome Arms for us at *Briſtol*, and that we ſhould have ſome Great Perſon come down to Head us; but I heard no more till the news of the Diſcovery came in publick Letters; I remember one time when *Wade* and I was with *Ferguſon*, he told us that the Duke of *Monmouth* was brought to a low Condition, all his Places being taken from him, and his Tenants in *Scotland* (being ſo ſeverely dealt with upon account of their Religion) were not able to pay Rent, ſo that his Eſtate there, which was accounted worth Ten or Twelve Thouſand Pound *per An.* did not yield him the laſt Year Two Thouſand Pound, that he was not well pleaſed with the management of Affairs, and deſired Mr. *Wade* to Appoint a place where he would meet the Lord *Gerrard*, and Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, to diſcourſe them, to which Mr. *Wade* replyed, he would meet none of them, for ſuch Great

Men

Men had betrayed the Nation already, and enſnar'd too many Thouſands to no purpoſe.

How it was to have been acted in Briſtol.

We concluded that the only way to ſecure *Briſtol* would be by a ſurprize, which with about 350 Men (150 of which we depended on from *Taunton*, the other 200 to be raiſed in and about the City) might eaſily be done about 4 of the Clock in the Morning, as ſoon as the Watch were gone off, without the Bloodſhed of one Man, thus, dividing the City into fourteen parts, ſo making thirteen Poſts beſides the main Guard, which ſhould at firſt have been at the *Toulzy* (which is in *Briſtol* as the Exchange here) we ſuppoſed 20 Men might be ſufficient for each Poſt, and the remainder for the main Guard, out of which might be ſpared 4 or 6 Files to be conſtantly marching about, and to aſſiſt where there might be occaſion The method we deſigned for the raiſing 200 Men in and about the City was thus, firſt to find out 30 Men, 2 for each Poſt, and 4 for the main Guard, who might be able each of them to procure 6 and to command them, which would have made 14 for each Poſt and 28 for the main Guard, to whom the *Taunton* Men ſhould be added, *(viz.)* 6 to each Poſt and the remainder to the main Guard, who ſhould have come in the Day before, ſome at every entrance of the City and lodge themſelves at Inns and Ale-Houſes as near the Poſts they were appointed for as they could: Each Man being to know his Poſt and Commanders before they came, the *Briſtol* Men to Lodge themſelves and Arms, with Arms for the *Taunton* Men, in an Houſe as near as poſſible to their Poſts, and to ſend one out from each Poſt between Three and Four of the Clock in the Morning to obſerve the motion of the Watch, and to adviſe as ſoon as they were gone off, that they might all immediately repair to their reſpective Poſts, calling the *Taunton* Men, and as ſoon as they had gained their Poſts to ſend out a File of Muſquetiers to fetch in ſuch and ſuch Men in each of their Diviſions as they ſhould have had an account of before, and convey them to the main Guard, which in the fourteen Diviſions would have been about Sixty Perſons, Commiſſion-Officers and others; then to fetch in all the Arms and Ammunition they could find, which two things being done (as we ſuppoſed might be in a little time, and without any oppoſition, the Poſts being ſo near each other, that it would have been impoſſible for any Number to get together) we reſolved next to declare the reaſons for our taking up Arms, and to encourage all to come in to us that we could truſt, not doubting but we ſhould ſoon have had many Thouſands in the City, and out of the adjacent Counties, *Glouceſter*, *Somerſet* and *Wilts*.

The Reaſons why I did not come in, &c.

When the News of the Diſcovery firſt came to *Briſtol*, and ſome time before, I was in ſome trouble by my Creditors, and forced to abſcond tho' thought I had ſufficient to pay them, only deſired time to get in my effects, their Mercy I feared more than your Majeſties, and thought if I ſhould come in and find mercy with your Majeſty, I could at firſt expect no better than a Priſon, and if from it diſcharged

by

by your Majeſty, to be kept in by them upon account of my Debts. Secondly, hearing there was very many (in and about *Briſtol*) ſuppoſed to be concerned, and I (tho' knowing ſo much) being able to prove ſo little againſt any Man, but ſuch againſt whom there was ſufficient proof without me, feared that if I ſhould come in more would be expected from me than I could prove, and ſo might fail of Mercy, it having been our reſolution not to diſcover the Deſign to any of our Friends till the Managers had agreed both upon time and method, therefore conſidered how to make my eſcape, there being then a ſtrict ſearch in all Ports, thought beſt to continue in *England* for ſome time, till the heat might be over, and ſo got an ordinary habit and a little Horſe about 40 Shillings Price, and travell'd the Country as a Man dealing in Wool, in *Glouceſter-ſhire*, *Oxford-ſhire* and *Summerſet-ſhire*, till about the middle of *Auguſt*, then repaired towards *Briſtol*, and by Letter with my Wifes Aſſiſtance (all other Friends thereabout fearing to act for me) prevailed with a Poor Man who had a ſmall Boat about Ten Tuns, for Twenty Pounds reward and the like *per* Month, for ſix Months, to go with me for *France*, and from thence to the *Weſt-Indies* or where I would, my Name being then in no Proclamation or Declaration, if it had I ſhould not have prevailed with the Man to go with me. So the Twenty third of *Auguſt* Sailed from *Kings-Road* for *Rochell*, the 25th. proving bad whether, crackt our Maſt, and ſo put into St. *Ives* in *Cornwall*, where we ſtayed till the fourth of *September*, then put out again for *Rochell*, but meeting with contrary Winds was forced into ſeveral places in *France*, and gained not our Port till the Seventeenth. In *Rochell* I loaded her with Brandy and other Goods, and the fourth of *October* Sailed from thence for the *Weſt-Indies* (being willing to know how my Concerns lay there, that my Creditors might have their own, tho' I knew I might be much ſafer in *France*) and arrived at *Barbadoes* the eleventh of *November*, there I heard of my Name being in the Gazette, therefore ſtayed but two Days landing part of my Cargo, from thence I went to *Antigua*, where I landed and diſpoſed of the remaining part, ſtaying there about ten Days; but it being too ſoon for the Crop, and my charge being the ſame lying ſtill or going farther, alſo thinking it not ſafe to lie long there, reſolved to ſee the reſt of the *Caribby-Iſlands*, and ſo went down to *Mounſerat*, *Nevis*, S. *Chriſtophers*, S. *Euſtatia* and *Anguilla*, and ſo back again to S. *Chriſtophers*, ſuppoſing that to be the ſafeſt place, I being known to none there, where I ſtayed about three Weeks. About the fourteenth of *January* I wrote to my Factor in *Nevis* about what was due to me, who on receit of my Letter diſcover'd me, ſo that Sir *William Stapleton* preſently ſent his Warrant to St. *Chriſtophers* to Apprehend me, but before it came I was gone down to St. *Euſtatia*, expecting to meet my Veſſel there, which I had ſent up to *Barbadoes*, and it being known where I was gone, the Deputy-Governor of St. *Chriſtophers* ſent five Men with his Warrant after me, to whom on ſight thereof I ſubmitted, tho' had an Opportunity and might have eſcaped, but was rather willing to caſt my ſelf at His Majeſties Feet for Mercy, than live ſuch a Life any longer, not daring to appear where there was need of me (among my Factors) who I doubt will take too much Advantage by my Troubles for my Creditors Intereſt. In *Nevis* I was kept a Priſoner 13 Days, where I promiſed Sir *William Stapleton* that I would make what Diſcovery I could, giving

him the Names of ſome who I had acquainted with it in *Briſtol*; which I ſuppoſe he hath given an Account of deſiring him that it might be kept private, for if it was known they would have Advice of it; but it was not kept ſo private as I expected, for the Night I came off I was told of it, therefore ſuppoſe they were advis'd by a *Briſtol* Ship that came away before us, by which I wrote not a word, I ſuppoſe ſhe might be at home long before us, we being nine Weeks and five Days. All that I can ſay againſt any of them, except *William Wade* who is before-mention'd, is That I Acquainted them with the buſineſs, as I believe many Thouſands in *England* were, and do ſuppoſe they would have been concern'd. Hereunder is an Account of many other Perſons that I have heard were concerned in the Deſign for an Inſurrection, which is all that I can call to mind of any thing material that ever I heard concerning the Plot.

A Paper found in Mr. Charleton's *Custody.*

Worthy Sir,

THe particulars underwritten, are a brief Account of what Service was done since *May* the 15th. 1680. during which time Six Pound *per annum* hath been paid for Rooms, most what for that Service, besides Wages to two Servants amounting to upwards of Ten Pounds, which is not at all charged to the Account. And all Earn'd and Charged on that Account is but 56 *l.* 10 *s.* for Paper and Print, *viz.*

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
The Black Box, First Impression Paper and Print Number 1500.	05	00	00
Second Impression with Alterations Number 1500.	05	00	00
The Answer to the Declaration Three Sheets, Number 3000. Paper and Print	18	00	00
The two Conferences, Five Sheets, Number 2500. Paper and Print.	25	00	00
Reasons for the Indictment of the D. of *Y.* Number 1000. Paper and Print	02	10	00
For Bags, Boxes and Portridge	01	00	00
Sum is	56	10	00
Whereof Received	33	00	00
Remains	23	10	00

Besides all the large promises when engaged in that Service, *viz.* to be the Parliament Printer (and when the Parliament sat, had not one Sheet to do of all the vast Numbers done for them.) Also 100 *l.* *per annum* and Reimburstment for an Engine made on purpose for the Service, which cost 15 *l.* A Former that cost 16 *l.* being rotted in the former Publick Service.

Towards all which, Eight Guineas were received of Mr. *Ferguson* said to be his own Gift. This is a Brief Account of what past under Mr. *Ferguson*'s Order, which shall be faithfully made appear to his Face if he dare stand the Test. By Sir, your most humble Servant.

Captain

Captain *Walcot*'s Letter, To the Right Honourable Sir *Leoline Jenkins*.

HOnoured Sir,

I *Being in the Country, and to my great trouble seeing my self in his Majesties Proclamation, I came last Night to Town, resolving to lay my self at his Majesties Feet, let him do with me what he pleaseth; This is the first Crime I have been Guilty of, since His Majestie's Restauration, and too soon by much now: If his Majesty thinks my Death will do him more good than my Life, God's Will and His be done. Untill I sent your Honour this Letter, my Life was in my own Power but now it is in the* Kings; *to whom I do most humbly propose, That if his Majesty desires it, I will Discover to him all that I know relating to* England, Scotland, *or* Ireland; *which I suppose may be something more than the Original Discoverer was able to acquaint his Majesty with; especially as to* Ireland: *There is not any thing His Majesty shall think fit to ask me, but I will answer him the Truth, as pertinently and as fully as I can. My intimacy with a* Scotch *Minister, through whose Hands much of the Business went, I judge occasioned my knowing very much: And I do further humbly propose, That if His Majesty thinks it advisable, I will follow those Lords and Gentlemen that are fled into* Holland, *as if I fled thither, and had made my Escape also, and will acquaint the King, if I can find it out, what Measures they resolve of taking next: I do assure His Majesty, the Business is laid very broad, or I am misinformed. And I am sure as to that particular, if my being with His Majesty, and your Honour, be not Discovered, I shall be ten times abler to serve him, than either Mr.* Freeman, *or Mr.* Carr; *for they will trust neither of them. There's scarce any thing done at Court, but is immediately talk'd all the Town over; therefore if his Majesty thinks what I have presumed to propose Advisable, I do then further most humbly Propose, That my waiting upon His Majesty may be some time within Night, that your Honour will acquaint me the Time and Place where I may wait upon you, in order to it; and that it may be within Night also, and that no body may be by, but His Majesty, and your Honour; And if His Majesty pleaseth to Pardon my Offences for the Time past, he shall find I will approve my self very Loyal for the future; if not, I resolve to give his Majesty no further trouble, but to lye at His Mercy, let him do with me what he pleaseth. I purpose to spend much of this Day in* Westminster-Hall, *at least from Two of the Clock to Four. I beg your Pardon I send your Honour this by a Porter: I assure your Honour, it was for no other reason, but because I would not have a Third Person Privy to it; and that I might have the better opportunity to make good my Word to His Majesty, and to approve my self*

Your Honours most humble Servant,

THO. WALCOT.

Minutes

Minutes of VValcots *Confeſſion before his Majeſty the* 8th. *of* July 1683.

THe firſt Buſineſs was ſpoken of in a place and at a time he does not now remember.

But it was agreed that Lord *Shaftsbury* ſhould have the Command in *London*.

Lord *Ruſſel* in *Devonſhire*.

Lord *Brandon* in *Cheſhire*.

Duke of *Monmouth* in *Taunton* and *Briſtol*.

This agreement did not hold long; Some coming to Town that ſaid the Countries were not ready.

The laſt buſineſs was ſpoke of about a fortnight before *Aſh-Wedneſday* laſt: Captain *Walcot* had no Conference about it with any Lord but with the Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrick*.

Ferguſon did oblige Captain *Walcot* to bring him and the Lord *Howard* together: The Lord *Howard* and *Ferguſon* diſcourſed together of the ways and means to ſurprize the *Tower*.

Lord *Shaftsbury* told him that the City was divided into twenty parts, and that there was to be a Chief to every part and he was to chooſe fifteen Men to aſſiſt him within his Diviſion.

Lord *Shaftsbury* told the Duke of *Monmouth* that the King was to be depoſed.

Rumbald was Lieutenant of Horſe in *Fairfax*'s Army. *Walcot* ſerved in the ſame Army.

Richard Goodenough ſaid the Duke of *Monmouth* expected ſix thouſand Men together in *London*.

Lord *Ruſſel* and Lord *Gray* were to Mortgage Lands for the Raiſing of ten thouſand pounds.

Lord *Howard* of *Eſcrick* was concerned in the Grand Conſultation.

Captain *Walcot* always oppoſed the Aſſaſſination: He will leave 800 *l.* a year behind him.

Ferguſon told *Walcot* about a quarter of a year ago that the Earl of *Eſſex* was in this Affair.

A Note taken from Walcot, *by Captain* Richardſon *Keeper of* Newgate, *July the* 11*th.* 1683.

IF Colonel *Romzey* be to be ſpoke with I would have you ſpeak with him to be tender of me, that will do him no hurt, he hath room enough to ſerve the King upon others, and if Mrs. *Weſt*, would do the like to her Husband, her Children ——

On the other ſide,

Run no hazard nor ſpeak with him before any body, if you cannot be private leave the iſſue to God.

Two Letters from the Mayor of New-Caſtle, Dated June the 1ſt. 1683. To Mr. Secretary Jenkins, about Pringle, &c.

Right Honourable, *New-Caſtle June* the 1ſt. 1683.

WE preſume to acquaint your Honour there are two perſons Apprehended and Committed to his Majeſties Goal here, with whom there are found divers Seditious Papers and Letters, they were for going beyond Seas, the one of them goes by the Name of Alexander Pringle, the other Edward Levitſon, when their Papers and Writings were ſeized on they attempted to deſtroy and convey the ſame, but were prevented: We have ſent by Expreſs the Writings ſo ſeized on to his Grace the Duke of New-Caſtle our Lord Lieutenant, to forward the ſame with this Letter to your Honour. What Commands we receive from your Honour ſhall be obeyed by, &c.

Right Honourable, *New-Caſtle June* the 13th. 1683.

WE Received your Honours Letter of the 5th. Inſtant, do acknowledge your favour and kindneſs therein, we have and ſhall make it our chief Care and Study to Apprehend all ſuch Offenders and do our utmoſt Endeavours on all occaſions for his Majeſties Intereſt and Service, we are ſatisfied one of theſe perſons is Alexander Gordon of Earleſtone though now called Pringle, both theſe Priſoners were delivered Yeſterday to Colonel Strother to be ſafely Conveyed into Scotland according to his Majeſties Commands. We are, &c.

A Letter to Mr. Alexander Pringle, ſeized at New-Caſtle.

SIR, *London March* the 20th. 1683.

ON Saturday laſt I had the occaſion of ſeeing a Letter from you directed for Mrs. Gaunt in whoſe abſence Mrs. Ward had Received it, at the reading of which I was not a little troubled, conſidering my full reſolutions ſignified to you in my laſt, for effectuating of which I had ſpoke for paſſage and taken my farewel of Mother Gaunt ſhe going into the Country; And that very Week I was ſo ſet upon by the Gentleman with whom I ſtay and Jo. Johnſton with ſome others, to ſtay but a month, and if that did not accompliſh ſomewhat in hand to help Trading, then I ſhould be no longer detained. After I was prevailed to retract ſo far I Ordered Jo. who had time at Command to give you an ample account of matters: And withal Jo. was deſired by our Friends from Scotland to ſtand here in my place: The like Engagements of Secreſie, &c. being taken, and thereupon I ordered him to ſhew you the grounds of my ſtaying, and to deſire if you inclined to croſs the Water to come this way. But ſince many are the confuſed yea troubled Thoughts that have poſſeſſed me for Tielding: Concerning which as alſo my yielding to it, take the ſubſequent account. In my laſt, or it precedent to it, I ſhewed you that Trading was very low here and many breaking, which hath made the Merchants, ſuch as they are, to think that deſperate Diſeaſes muſt have deſperate Cures. And while that they have

ſome

ſome ſtock it will be better to venture out than to keep Shop and ſit ſtill till all be gone and then they ſhall not be able to act but let all go, which Reſolution I thought a thing not to conſide in ſeeing the moſt of them are Fire-ſide Merchants, *and love not to venture where ſtorms are any thing apparent. But about my departing they ſhewed the Model of affairs in ſuch order that I ſee* venture they muſt and venture they will, *whereupon I demanded how our Trade would be carried on.* Anſwer, *They knew well what goods had proven moſt prejudicial to their Trade and therefore they thought beſt to inſiſt upon Negatives. In which whatever I propoſed is aſſented to, as I find, and this they thought beſt to ſtill* ſome Criticks in the Trade *and by this means to endeavour* the diſpatching the old Rotten Stuff *before they order what to bring home next, this looks ſomewhat ſtrange to me, but when I conſider all circumſtances I think they for themſelves do beſt in it, for our Merchants I made account only to have had ſome ſtock for to ſet the broken ones up again and ſo bid them here farewel and they to try their way and we ours ſince they think fit that ſome of thoſe whom we have found (as you will ſay when you hear them named) treacherous dealers in our Trade conſulted and accordingly have done, whereupon I fear or rather hope that our Merchants though broke will rather deſire to live a while longer as they are, than joyn with ſuch, and to advance their Trade unleſs ſurer grounds of their fidelity be gotten than is or can be expected. And this is the bottom of all my ſorrow. But to proceed I find (if all hold that is intended) that they think it is almoſt at a point to ſet forward if they had their* Factors *home who are gone to try how the Country will like ſuch Goods as they are for or againſt the making ſail of.* Friends *I mean* Merchants *wrote to me that after I had ſpoken to you poſſibly you might come this way the better thereby to adviſe them what to do in this caſe for I have ſignified ſomewhat of it to them but not ſo far as this; becauſe I thought to have ſeen you long ere this time, but I hope you will not miſconſtruct of my ſtaying, ſeeing in it I deſigned nothing but* advancement of our Trade. *But once this week thoſe Factors ſent for will be here, and then matters will* (in inſtanti) *either off or on, break or go through: Wherefore in reference to* friends *I deſire you will adviſe me what to do if you cannot or think it not convenient to come here, if you do let a Letter precede, and* if any ſtrange thing fall out this week or the next, *I will again Poſt it towards you. I think when this and the next week is gone (and no news come from you) that I ſhall ſet forward being ſtill ſo ready as that in twelve hours I can bid Adieu.*

The Whiggs are very low as well in City as Suburbs all Meetings being every Sunday *beſet with Conſtables to keep them out, and what they get is ſtolen either evening or morning. This Winter moſt of the great Bankers and Goldſmiths in* Lombard-ſtreet *are broke and gone. The* Bantam *Factory in the* Indies *is taken by the Dutch. Confuſion Confuſion in Town and Country, ſuch as you never ſaw. Mrs.* Ward *and ſeveral others deſire to be remembred to you: My endeared Reſpects to your ſelf and* B. *with the young Men arrived. This I have writ in ſhort and in haſt, expecting a line with as great haſt as you ſee is needful;* for matters are full as high as I tell you. Farewel.

From your Friend and Servant, *Jo. N.*

Be ſure that you direct not for *Bednal-Green*, but for me at Mr. *Meads* in *Stepney* near *London*. Directed on the back thus; To Mr. *Alexander Pringle* to be left at Mr. *Alexander Hope* his Houſe in four *Glaſs-Haven*, in *Rotterdam*, Theſe.

The

The Examination of John Nisbet *of* Stepney *taken before* John Tendring, *Esq*;.

THis Examinant being duly Examined, doth say that he was born in *Northumberland*, that he was bred a Scholar at *Edenburgh* in *Scotland*, that he came from thence to *London*, that he was Usher at Mr. *Waltons* School at *Bednal-Green*, that from thence he came to *Mile-end*, and there lived about a year in the House of one Mr. *Matthew Richardson*, and taught his Children. This Examinant saith further that he came down to *Bradwel* with Mr. *Richardson*, and that being a Scholar he did intend to go beyond-Seas into *Flanders*, and put himself into some Colledge.

This Examinant wholly denyed that he knew Mr. *Richardson* to have any other Name.

Capt. coram me.

Jo. Tendring.

A Copy of Earlestoun's *Commission*,

Omnibus & singulis Religionem vere Reformatam Profitentibus ad quos præsentes pervenient.

QUin, *Variæ Anguſtiæ, pertriſtes perſecutiones, & opprobria noſtræ (hic in Scotia) Eccleſiæ, magna, ad veſtras pervenere aures, neutiquam eſt nobis in dubio: Quum, depreſſus, & quoad externa, Status devaſtatus; quo, pro Fide Sanctis traditâ, & noſtræ Eccleſiæ privilegiis & jure peculiari contendendo, redacta eſt, fere omnibus ſit notus: Quorum intuitus & conſideratio una cum magna, de veſtri (in nobis intereſſe, ſpe conceptâ) hunc* Dom. Alexandrum Gordon de Earleſtoun Legatum *noſtrum, vobis omnibus, Reipublicæ Iſraeliticæ fautoribus, & benevolentibus mittere & demandare non ſine multa cauſa, perſuaſit; cauſam, & Statum noſtrum malitioſe, ſubtilitate adverſariorum vobis repreſentatum, cognoſcentes qui, eo ipſo ut, nos, & quicquid a nobis actum, vobis reddant ridiculo; in male [repreſentando, & Pſeudographias actorum noſtrorum diſpergendo], vigilantiſſimi ſunt: Quaſi progreſſus noſtri & principia* Verbo Dei (*ſupremo controverſiarum judici*) *& vere Proteſtantiſmo, eſſent contraria: Quum nos, nec quicquid tenere, nec tenere cupere, Verbo Dei ſcripto,*

& antiquis, civilis, & Eccleſiaſtici Status, legibus; & priſtinæ reformationi contrarium, declaramus, ſed cum omnia in eo fundentur, potius (Deo dante) actiones noſtras ei reddere conformes cupimus. Quapropter nos Proteſtantes, Antieraſtiani, Antiprelatici, & Tirannide agitati, *in Scotia Preſbiteriani, huic noſtro legato, concredimus ei plenum conſenſum & aſſenſum dantes fideliter, & vere, omnes vere Reformatos, ad quos perveniet, informatos reddere; Quod ſolummodo nos ipſos in viâ* Domini *puros (Dei gratia) quoad poſſumus ſervare, intentes ſumus & viam majorum, vere Illuſtrium, in noſtra nobili reformatione propaganda in diverſis, ejus, a Papiſmo, Prelatura, & Eraſtianiſmo gradibus, & veſtigiis incedere cupimus, atque hæc ſunt noſtrarum perſecutionum (pro præſenti) capita, & cauſa. Ad quorum pleniorem & clariorem notitiam, hujus noſtri Legati relationi remittimus; Teſtimonio cujus, cum ſit in rebus noſtris, publicis declarationibus &* martyrum Teſtimoniis, *ſat verſatus, ejuſdem nobiſcum judicii, & ſub iiſdem perpeſſionibus fidem dare poteſtis.* Humillime *igitur oramus & obſecramus ut relationi hujus noſtri Legati tanquam vere fides a vobis detur, & ut nullius narrationi, vel datæ vel quæ poſthac detur, de nobis, principiis, & progreſſu noſtro ſicut verbo Dei, votis, juramentis, ei datis, & relationi hujus noſtri Legati, contrariæ cum ſit tantum calumnioſe ab adverſariis data credatis.* Quocirca, *omnes Zionis fautores oramus, noſtrum ſtatum, quo redacti ſumus, non parvi facere, ſed ſerio perpendere; Deus enim omnes, ad ſympathiam vocat, & perpendum eſt, omnes conjurationes & Adverſariorum conſultationes, in univerſam Eccleſiam eſſe deſtinatas: Et uno membro patienti totum corpus cum eo compati debet.* Datum Edinburgi *decimo die* Aprilis *Anno Domini milleſimo ſexcenteſimo octuageſimo ſecundo. Et ex noſtro mandato ſubſcriptum a Clerico Conventionis noſtro ſic ſubſcribitur* Jacobus Renwick.

The Examinations of Gordon *late of* Earleſtoun *taken before the Committee of Council,* July *the* 5*th.* 1683.

In preſence of the Earls of Linlithgoe, Perth, *Biſhop of* Edenburgh *and* Regiſter.

Alexander Gordon of *Earleſtoun* being Examined again by Order of the Council upon ſeveral Interrogators ariſing from the Letter ſent to him by *Jo. N.* Dated *London March* the 20*th.* 1683.

As to the Secrecy to be taken of the Man that was to ſtand in *Nisbets* place. That it was an ingagement of Secrecy and ſome Queries to try if they agreed in Principles.

Being

Being interrogat of the account of Matters written to him by *Jo.* at the desire of *Jo. N.* Declares that it was a Letter under the Metaphor of Marriage, and that by the Marriage he understood a Rising designed there.

Being interrogat what the *Merchants* being low and breaking did mean. *Answers*, That he thinks it means that their people *viz.* the Dissenters were breaking in their Stocks by Excommunications and other Courses, and therefore they were resolving upon desperate courses; which was Rising in Arms.

Being interrogat what is meant by the said *Merchants*. *Answers*, Some that lived at their ease and quiet would not venture to Rise when they saw much danger.

Being interrogat what is meant by the *model of affairs* that would make them venture. *Answers*, That they had shewn to *Jo. N.* a model how they would go about their affairs in order to their Rising.

Being interrogat anent their Resolution to insist on Negatives, and what were the Goods that proved prejudicial to them formerly. *Answers*, That the meaning was, they resolved to agree in what they would put down, which he thinks was the whole Government, Civil and Ecclesiastick, but that they would not determine positively what they would set up.

Being interrogat what was it that *Jo. N.* proposed to them that they assented to. *Answers*, He thinks he had stated the grounds of the quarrel Relative to the present Government, and that they had assented to it. But declares that when *Jo. N.* was speaking to him of these things he thought them of that nature that he shun'd discourse upon them to receive Information concerning them, because he had no mind to meddle with them.

That by *Criticks of the Trade* is understood the Scotch Fanaticks because they are nice in associating themselves.

That by the *dispatching of the Old rotten stuff*, he thinks it the dispatching of the Sectaries or the present Government, but rather thinks it was the last.

That by the Broken ones which he was to set up is meant the Scotch Fanaticks to be helped by Contributions, and that by their trying their way and we ours, was meant the English was for Rising in Arms, but the Scotch Fanaticks were for delaying some time.

That by these called Treacherous Dealers, he thinks is meant both the Secretaries and the present Government, who had formerly broke their Government, but never heard these persons named.

That they being at a point to set forward, is meant their being ready for Rendevous.

That by Emissaries is meant persons sent out both in *Scotland* and *England* from *London* to try the Peoples inclinations to a Rising and to incite them to it, and that these Merchants who advised *Jo. N.* to send for the Declarant to come that way were the Meetings of the Fanaticks in *Scotland*.

That by *advancing of the Trade* he thinks is meant the Carrying on of the Rising.

By that part of the Letter which tells that when the Factors would return that matters would *in instanti* be off or on, That the meaning

meaning was that when theſe Factors came in they expected Mony for buying of Arms and then they would inſtantly have Riſen, but that the Mony was not come in at that time when he did meet with *Jo. N.*

That by the Strange thing that might have fallen out in a Week or two, he underſtands no other thing than the Inſurrection intended.

Declares that this *Jo. N.* was a perſon that paſt under the name of *John Nisbet*, an Engliſhman, and ſtayed at one Mr. *Mead*'s in *Stepney* which *Nisbet* was an Uſher of a School at *Bednal-Green* before.

That the cloſe of the Letter bearing that things were fully as high as I tell you, is meant the preſent intended Rebellion.

That by the Capital Letter *B.* is meant one Mr. *Brake* a Miniſter in *Lewarden* in *Freiſland*, and the young Men are ſome Students who are in *Holland.*

Being interrogat what he heard of the Earl of *Argile*'s concurring or aſſiſting in this Inſurrection, *Anſwers*, That he heard by report in *Holland*, that *Argile* had undertaken to Raiſe ten thouſand Men to aſſiſt in that Rebellion, and that he was to furniſh himſelf with Arms in *Holland*, and about the time of this report which he thinks was, in *December* or *January* laſt, he heard *Argile* was in *Holland* but that he did not ſee him, and to the beſt of his memory *Jo. N.* alſo told him of the Earl of *Argiles* concurring in the Riſing, but remembers of no other perſon.

Being Interrogat upon the little Letter from *Stepney* which he thinks was about the beginning of *May*, Dated *Friday* at ſeven a Clock. That the Man whom he ſpeaks of, is Mr. *Mead* a Miniſter, and that by the words what my Hands find to do was meant *Jo. N*'s. going to *Holland* and that the Declarant was to meet with Mr. *Mead* to let *Jo. N.* go.

Further declares that *John Johnſton* was one, who at other times paſt under the name of *Murray* who is a little Man Pock-marked, and wears a Periwig. *Sic ſubſcribitur.*

A. Gordon, Linlithgow, Perth, Jo. Edinburgen. Geo. Meckenzy, J. Drummond.

This is a true Copy of the Original Declaration and Anſwer made by *Alexander Gordon*, late of *Earleſtoun* to the Interrogators propoſed to him by the Committee of Council, which is atteſted By me

William Paterſon
Cls. Sti. Concilij.

The

A Copy of Alexander Gordons *Examination*, June 30. 1683.

THe ſaid *Alexander* being interrogate what he knew of the Author of that Letter directed to *Alexander Pringle* of the date 20 of *March* laſt, to be left at *Alexander Hopes* Houſe in *Gloſs-haven Rotterdam*, which runs upon the Metaphor of Trade, anſwereth, That the Author of that Letter ſeemeth to him to be one *Jo. Nisbet*, with whom he converſed a year ago at *London*, and ordered the ſaid *Alexander* to direct his Letters to *Bednal-Green*, and ſince to Mr. *Mead* in *Stepney* near *London*, and that he the ſaid *Alexander* had written a Letter to this *Jo. Nisbet*, challenging him why he came not ſooner over to *Holland* as he had promiſed, dated about *January* laſt; and that he received this Letter by the Metaphor of Trade in anſwer thereunto; and that the *venturing* ſpoke of in the Letter was to ſignifie a reſolution of a ſpeedy Riſing in Arms; and that the *Factors* therein mentioned ſignified their Agents and Emiſſaries who were ſent out into different corners both in *England* and *Scotland* to know the Pulſe of their Complices and Parties if they were in readineſs to joyn and riſe with them, and that they brought back accounts of their willingneſs ſo to do, and readineſs for an Inſurrection. And as to the aſſiſtance they were to have from *Scotland*, he underſtood it at his laſt coming here, and ſome Months before he came over in *May* laſt, he heard amongſt the Dutch People commonly reported that there was to be very ſhortly a Riſing in *England*, and that the Earl of *Argile* was to furniſh from *Scotland* Ten Thouſand Highland-Men for their aſſiſtance; and that at his coming hither laſt he heard that there was a Perſon come from *England* to Sir *Jo. Cockram*, alledging he came about the Affair of *Carolina*, but that he had diſcovered himſelf to a Servant of the Lord Treaſurers that he had come to *Scotland* upon other matters, and that the Letters for *Scotland* from any Correſpondents of the Party in which *Earleſtoun* was engaged was directed to Mr. *Henry Emertſon* written in *Edenburgh*; and that before he came laſt hither in *May*, the meeting of theſe Phanatical People had received a Letter from *England* ſubſcribed by one *J. S.* whom he takes to be one *Murray* as he named himſelf to *Earleſtoun* (as the other forementioned perſon named himſelf *Jo. Nisbet*) in which Letter there was the Metaphor of a Marriage anent which all things were agreed and the Marriage ready to be ſolemnized which occaſioned their ſending for him the ſaid *Alexander Gordon* to have his mind concerning that Affair; and they interpreting that Letter ſigned by *J. S.* from *England* to concern the ſeeking of their aſſiſtance in their intended Riſing there, he did diſſwade them from it; and that by the Marriage they underſtood a Riſing to be intended in *England*, and that it was ready to be ſolemnized was to ſignifie that an Inſurrection was to be very ſpeedily on foot; and declared that theſe with whom *Earleſtoun* con-

verſed here declared that they believed that the Perſons who came from *England* to Sir *Jo. Cockram* were ſent to manage a Correſpondence in order to the deſign of Riſing in Arms.

The Relation of Alexander Gordon *of* Earlſtoun *of what he was informed of, and heard as followeth.*

ABout the time of the Election of *Rich* and *North*, I heard that there were ſome deſigns of riſing in Arms of ſome people in *England*, and in order thereto there was ſome treating with my Lord *Argile*, but not agreeing to the terms my Lord left them, and I heard it ceaſed for ſome time and went over to *Holland*; and when he was there, I was informed of the renewing of the Treaty, and agreed upon the following terms, *viz.*

That the Earl of *Argile* ſhould raiſe ſeven Thouſand Men, and the Treators (who as I was informed were Engliſh-men) were to advance the ſaid Earl Ten Thouſand Pound Sterling; and this was agreed to in *April* laſt.

The perſons in *England* were by Information the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Earl of *Shaftsbury*; but after the ſaid Earls deceaſe I did not hear ſo much of the Duke of *Monmouth*. I was alſo informed of *Ford* Lord *Gray* of *Wark* his being in the Deſign.

I was alſo informed that thoſe concerned in *Scotland* moſt in the ſaid Deſign, were Sir *John Cockram*, *Jerviſwood*, *Seſſnock* Elder and Younger, and that Sir *John Cockram* the one day kiſt his Majeſties Hands, the other day went to the Cabal anent the above-written Deſign.

I was alſo inform'd that no ſmall number of the Gentlemen in the Weſt and other places in *Scotland* upon their reſentment of the preſent Government, particularly as to the Teſt and other Papers put to them, were not reſolved to ſtand to them although they ſhould take them, but riſe upon the firſt occaſion.

This Information I heard from *Murray* alias *Johnſtoune*, who as I heard was a Weſt Country-man in *Scotland*, who offered to take me along to their Cabals, but upon my refuſal to meddle in the deſigns kept himſelf and told no more than thoſe generals.

I met

I met with *Mead* at one Mr. *Cooks* a Merchant living near the *Exchange* in *Auſtin-Fryers* in *London*, but I do not mind what he ſpoke of the aforeſaid Deſign to me, but thinks not, for I was a ſtranger to him, and not acquainted before that time; and this I ſubſcribe before theſe Witneſſes Sir *William Hamilton* of *Preſtonn*, Maſter *John Vans* Keeper of the *Tolbooth* of *Edinburgh*.

A Copy of the Interrogators propoſed to Alexander Gordon *ſometime of* Earleſtoun *in the Committee, 25th September 1683.*

TO interrogate the ſaid *Alexander Gordon* what correſpondence he did hold with the pretended General Convention from whom he had his Commiſſion. And if he did not write a Letter to, and hold correſpondence with, them before he came laſt to *Scotland*, and upon what account he did write that Letter to the ſaid Convention which is mentioned in one Letter to him from one *Michael Sheills* bearing that the Convention had recieved his Letter, *&c.* And if to his knowledge the ſaid pretented convention General did not hold any exact Correſpondence and Intelligence with the diſaffected Party and other their Adherents both in *England* and in the United Provinces of the Netherlands, and what the ſaid Correſpondence was and if it was not to the weaking and diminiſhing if not to the ruining and overturning of His Majeſties Government both in Church and State as it is now Eſtabliſhed within his Majeſties Dominions.

2. Upon what account was he moved to accept of the ſaid Commiſſion and what other Inſtructions he had from the ſaid pretended Convention General in order to the Methods he was to take for inviting the aſſiſtance and ſupply of the Foraign States and Churches unto which he was Commiſſionate and if he had not Inſtructions for imploring their aid by ſupply of Mony and other Neceſſaries for fitting and capacitating the diſtreſſed party in *Scotland* to ſubvert and overturn, at leaſt to reſiſt, his Majeſties Government in this Kingdom.

3. Who were the Perſons who did ſit and aſſiſt in the ſaid convention General when his Commiſſion was ordered, and who did preſide thereat. And that he would declare ſuch of the Members of the ſaid Convention as he either knew or heard of by their proper Names and Sir-Names and place of their reſidence and from whom he recieved the foreſaid Commiſſion, and who were preſent at the delivery of the ſame to him and what a Perſon Mr. *James Renvicle* is who ſubſcribes as Clerk to the ſaid Commiſſion, and if that was his own true or only a borrowed Name; And if the ſame was borrowed that he would declare what his true Name is, and where his place of reſidence was, and if he knows what is become of him ſince or where he now is, and to interrogate him after the ſame manner in Relation to *Michael Sheills.*

4. If the ſaid General Convention was not compoſed of Perſons ſent from particular Diſtricts within this Kingdom and how many ſuch

ſuch Diſtricts there were and who were the leading Perſons within theſe particular Diſtricts and what ſort of Perſons they were who were Commiſſionate from theſe reſerved Diſtricts to the pretended General Convention. And what farther he knows in Relation to the Government and management of Affairs within theſe particular Diſtricts.

5. To interrogate the ſaid *Alexander Gordon* what Perſons he knew either in *Scotland England Ireland* or in the United Provinces of the Netherlands that did hold Correſpondence with the ſaid pretended Convention General in order to their acting and conſulting of their Affairs or concerting of meaſures and Methods to be taken in the Proſecution of their purpoſes and deſigns, *&c.*

Interrogators to be put to the ſaid Alexander Gordon *in Relation to the late Horrid Conſpiracy.*

IMprimis, That the ſaid *Alexander Gordon* would ingenuouſly declare the true and Genuine meaning and ſenſe of that Letter written to him by *Jo. N.* from *London* and would give a full and ſatisfactory Account thereof to the Lords of the Committee ſuch as may ſatisfie rational and knowing Men conform to the meaning of the writer, who was his Correſpondent, and who would never have writ to him in Riddles and Myſteries, ſeeing by the Letter it appears that he was informing *Alexander Gordon* with the State of their Affairs and with the meaſures and reſolutions they had already taken. And therefore to interrogate him who this Correſpondent was who ſubſcribes *Jo. N.* and where he reſided and what was his Trade and Occupation and with whom elſe he the ſaid *Alexander* did know him to keep correſpondence, and how he became to be acquainted with him, and of that way and manner of writing under the Metaphor of Trade and commerce, *&c.* Had not been conceived and agreed to betwixt the ſaid *Alexander* and the ſaid *Jo. N.* and their party before thereby to vail and diſguiſe their Rebellious contrivances and who were preſent at the contriving of ſuch a metaphorical way of Writing beſides the ſaid *Alexander* and *Jo. N.* and if theſe and the like Methods were not a common rule and Practiſe of theſe Barbarous and execrable Conſpirators for diſguiſing of their Horrid and Bloody deſigns againſt the Perſon of his Sacred Majeſty and Royal Brother and for riſing in Arms againſt his Majeſty and his Government.

2. What he knows in Relation to the ſaid Horrid Conſpiracy againſt his Majeſties Perſon and the Perſon of his Royal Brother or of riſing in Arms againſt his Majeſty and Government and who were

 acceſſory

acceſſory to the ſaid Horrid Deſigns either in *Scotland England Ireland* or any where abroad whither in the United Provinces of the Netherlands or elſe where and that he would give an account of them in ſo far as he knows by their Names Sir-Names and places of reſidence and ſuch other deſigns as he knew them by, and likeways that he would give an Account of the particular deſigns methods and contrivances treated upon and concerted for the riſing in Arms againſt the King and Government either in *Scotland England* or *Ireland* and by what Perſons the ſaid Treaties and Deſigns were carried on as to all which he would give a particular and diſtinct account to the Lords of the Committee.

3. To interrogate him anent the other Letter Written to him under the Name of Mr. *Pringle* and what was the true meaning thereof and by whom the ſame was written and if the Trade therein ſpecified do not relate to the condition of the Fanatick and diſaffected Party, and what other import the ſaid Letter does bear and from what place of the World the ſame came.

A Copy of the Examination of Alexander Gordon *late of* Earlſtoun.

Edinburgh, 25th of September 1683.

The Earl of *Linlithgow.*
Lord *Livingſton.*
Lord Preſident of Seſſion.
Lord *Collintoun.*
Lord *Caſtlehil.*

Juſtices,

The Lord *Pitmedden.*
The Lord *Harcarſs.*

The Earl of *Linlithgow* elected Preſident.

TO the firſt Interrogator anſwers, That the firſt time he met with that pretended Convention was near the Inner-Kirk of *Kyle* in the Fields about two years ago; and there were there about fourſcore perſons or thereby; and that he was brought there from his own Houſe by one *Jo. Nisbet*, whom the Declarant knows not further than that he is a Weſt-Country-man about *Glaſgow*; and that *Jo. Nisbet* is another *Jo. Nisbet* that wrote a Letter to him to *Holland* under the notion of Trade, relating to the Riſing and Rebellion in *England.* And farther, That about a year and an half ago he met with another Convention conſiſting of fourſcore perſons or thereby in the Fields within five miles of the former place near Inner-Kirk and that very few of them had Swords; to which Meeting he was advertiſed to come by a Letter ſent to his Houſe ſubſcribed by Mr. *James Kennick* who is Clerk to the Convention and heard of no Miniſters being amongſt them at either of theſe times and ſays there were people there from all the Diſtricts in the ſeveral Shires of the Kingdom: which Diſtricts he was informed were fourſcore; and that he knew none of the perſons in either of theſe meetings except Mr. *James Kennick* the Clerk, the ſaid *Jo. Nisbet* who came from a Diſtrict beſides *Glaſgow*, and *William* and *James Stewarts* who came out of *Galloway* and *Robert Speir* who came from the *Lothians*, and one *Forreſt* who came from the Upperward of *Cluyd* and that at theſe general meetings they produced their Commiſſions from the ſeveral

ſeveral Diſtricts to the Clerk that it might appear that they were commiſſionate to get relief for the diſtreſt in their bounds, that the buſineſs of the Convention was to provide for thoſe amongſt them were in want and for their own ſecurity againſt the dangers they were in, being denounced Fugitives from the Laws and in hazard to be catcht by the Governors; and that he heard nothing treated or ſpoke amongſt them as to riſing in Arms, nor knows of any Correſpondence theſe of the Convention had with any in *Ireland*; and as to *England* he ſuppoſes there was a Correſpondence there, but knows not theſe that managed it, except the ſaid *Jo. Nisbet*, he having ſhewn the Declarant a Letter he had from *Michael Sheills* one of the Clerks of the Convention, which he ſaw in the end of *March* or beginning of *April* laſt.

To the ſecond Interrogator, the reaſon why he accepted of the Commiſſion produced, declares, He accepted it upon the account to ſee if there could be a way found for the diſtreſt Brethren to go abroad, or to have ſomething from abroad to maintain them there.

To the third Interrogator declares, He remembers no more perſons were preſent but theſe condeſcended upon in the firſt Interrogator, which he ſays was occaſioned by his being ſo long abroad; and although upon ſeeing their faces he might know ſeveral of them, yet knows not their Names, nor the places of their Reſidence.

To the fourth declares, The ſaid general Conventions were compoſed of perſons ſent from the ſeveral Diſtricts, of which there were as he heard about fourſcore in number, in which fourſcore Diſtricts he was told there would have been ſix or ſeven thouſand men, but knows not of any Gentlemen or leading Men amongſt them. As to the Commiſſion it was ſent him to *Newcaſtle* by a common Receiver whom he knows not, directed to him at his Lodging at the Sign of the Vine in the *Gateſide* in *Newcaſtle*, his Landlords Name being *George Marſhal* a publick Inn-keeper, and addreſt to him under the Name of *La Graveil*, being the Name he went by, and that the ſame was under a Cover of *James Kennick* their Clerk who ſubſcribed it.

To the laſt Interrogator repeats his anſwer made to the firſt Interrogator, and knows no further.

Being further interrogate upon the Interrogators given in anent the Conſpiracy in *England*, declares, That the firſt time he heard of any deſign of riſing in Arms was at the time when the Competition was anent the Sheriffs at *Midſummer* was a year, and then he heard the Duke of *Monmouth* was to Head the Rebels; and this he had from *Jo. Nisbet* and one Mr. *Murray* a Scotch-man then at *London*; and declares, That in *January* laſt the Declarant being in *Holland* he heard by general report that the late Earl of *Argile* was to raiſe ſome thouſand Highlanders to aſſiſt the Rebels in *England* by making a diverſion and was to get a Sum of Money for that effect; and that in *March* laſt he having received a Letter from *Jo. Nisbet* in *Holland*, he came over to *London*, where he met with the ſaid *Nisbet* and *Murray*, who told the Declarant they deſigned to riſe preſently in *England* and

and to Rendezvous in Six or Seven places at one time particularly at *Coventry* and *London* and that they computed ſeveral Thouſands in *York-ſhire* who were to joyn with them. That *Murray* deſired the Declarant to go along whith him to meet with the late Lord *Ruſſel* and *Gray* and the Lord *Wharton* (but of *Wharton* they ſayed they were not very ſure of him being a feared Man) and with Mr. *Ferguſon* and ſpoke of ſeveral old Officers of *Cromwels* that were to be there but the Declarant not being for the preſent Riſing ſhunn'd to meet with theſe Perſons or any of them, and both *Nisbet* and *Murray* told the Declarant that Sir *John Cockram* was with them and heard from theſe Two Perſons that both the *Ceſſnocks* were concerned in that buſineſs. As to the Letter written by *Jo. N.* of the 20th of *March* and directed for the Declarant at *Rotterdam* Declares that *Jo. Nisbet* ſent the ſaid Letter and that under the Metaphor of Trade throughout the whole Letter is meant the deſign of Riſing in Arms and a Rebellion and that by the Words (diſpatching the old rotten ſtuff) is meant either the excluding the Sectaries from joyning with them or deſtroying the Government both Civil and Eccleſiaſtick which laſt the Declarant ſuppoſes rather to be the Words and that by the Factors are meant their Emiſſaries for carying on the Rebellion; and for that ſtrange thing that was to fall out that week as the next the Declarant thinks is meant the ſuddain Muſter of the Rebells. In the cloſe of the Letter which ſays things are full as high as I tell you, is meant that the Rebellion was inſtantly to break out, and having met with *Jo. Nisbet* after his coming from *Holland* the ſaid *Nisbet* explained to him that the ſenſe of the ſaid Letter was as is aboveſaid.

As to a Letter direct to the Declarant under the Name of *Pringle* of the 2 *May* 1683, declares, That the Name of the ſubſcriber which is blotted out was ſo blotted before it came to his Hand, but by the Contents of it he knows its from one *Rob. Johnſton* a Tenent or Vaſſal to the Lord *Gray* on the border and that the Traders and Trading there ſpoke of is the deſigned Rebellion and that the ſaid *Robert Johnſton* offered to come to *Scotland* with the Declarant to have ſeen ſome of our diſaffected People here and to have met with them. And that *A. T.* mentioned in the ſaid Letter which the Letter ſays laboured to undervalue the diſaffected party in *Scotland* which he calls your Goods, is the Name of *Andrew Young* who ſtays about *Newcaſtle* whom he ſuppoſes to be a ſuſpect Perſon becauſe he was feared that Colonel *Struthers* would apprehend him. And that he ſuppoſes the way that that Letter came to his Hand was from ſome Perſons that were at a meeting at Midſummer about that time, where was preſent ſeveral of thoſe People that had Commiſſion from the ſeveral Diſtricts, but that he himſelf was not at that Meeting.

Examination of Mr. Steil *and* Andrew Oliver *anent* Mr. Aaron Smith's *coming to* Scotland *and his going to Sir* Jo. Cockram's *Houſe at* Ochiltree. *Edenburgh* 11th of *December*, 1683.

MR. *Thomas Steil* in *Jedwart-Foreſt* declares, that in *February* laſt, an Engliſh Gentleman coming to *Jedwart* being recommended to the Declarant by one *David Sheriff* Stabler in *Newcaſtle*, only that he might direct him to *Ochiltree*, ſpoke only

to him of *Carolina* Buſineſs anent which he was to tranſact with Sir *John Cockram*; and that the Declarant got him one *Andrew Oliver* in *Jedwart-Foreſt* for hire to be his guide to *Douglas*, and that the ſaid *Oliver* went with him from that to Sir *John Cockrams* and declares he knew not his name and had no knowledg of him, but that he was called when he was at *Jedwart*, *Clerk*, but afterwards heard he was called *Smith*.

Andrew Oliver in *Barwick* Tenant to the Marqueſs of *Douglas* being Examined declares, a little before Seed-time laſt the Declarant met with Mr. *Thomas Steil* at *Linalie* the Marqueſs's Houſe, of purpoſe to bring home his Wife from *Douglas* to *Jedburgh-Foreſt*, and the Declarant being upon his way and coming to Provoſt *Ainſlie*'s Houſe in *Jedburgh*, and there being a Stranger there an Engliſh Man ready to take Horſe to go to the Weſt, the ſaid Mr. *Thomas Steil* having told the Deponent there was a Stranger who knew not the way and would be deſirous of his company, and the Deponent having called for the Stranger in the Houſe he and he took Horſe together and rode to *Peebles* that night and the next day came to *Douglas*, and the Stranger upon the way told his name was *Samuel Clerk*, which he thinks was the next day after they came from *Jedburgh*; and the next day the Stranger not being able to get a Guide, to convey him to *Ochiltree*, at the deſire of Mr. *Thomas Steil*'s Wife did go along with him from *Douglas* to *Ochiltree*, and the Stranger went into the Houſe of *Ochiltree* to call for the Laird; the Deponent not having gone in with him, where he ſtaid about one quarter of an Hour and came back to a Houſe in the Town where the Deponent was to Lodg. That the Deponent heard from the Stranger that his buſineſs with the Laird of *Ochiltree* was concerning *Carolina* Buſineſs, and of their deſign to ſend Families there in the Spring to Plant, and that he commended the Country.

And. Oliver. *Jo. Edenburgen.*

Edenburgh, Sederunt *and Journals of Council*, 20 *of Dec.* 1683.

MR. *Thomas Steil* Chamberlain to the Marquis of *Douglas*, being Priſoner as alledged, Entertaining and Correſponding with *Aaron Smith* when he was in *Scotland*, and providing him a Guide to Sir *John Cockram*'s Houſe of *Ochiltree*, who being Examin'd with the ſaid Guide and all that appears is, That the ſaid *Aaron Smith*, under the name of *Clark*, was Recommended by one *David Sheriff*, Innkeeper and Stabler of *Newcaſtle*, to *Steil*, as being his Acquaintance when he came to *Jedburgh*, to help him to one that ſhould guide him the way being a Stranger, without any ſuſpition or knowledg of his being a perſon guilty of any Crime or evil Deſign. The Lords upon conſideration of the Bill appoint a Letter to be written to the Secretaries to cauſe Examine *Aaron Smith* upon the time of his coming to *Jedburgh*, and what paſt betwixt him and *Steil* and any other Interrogator proper, ſeeing it's ſaid that the ſaid *Aaron Smith* denied he was ever in *Scotland*; and that another Letter be written to the Mayor of *Newcaſtle* to Examine the Innkeeper; and in the mean time allows *Steil* to be liberat on Caution to appear when called, under the penalty of 2000 Marks; and that he ſhall not go off the Country without Licence, to prevent any practizing with the Innkeeper.

A

Alexander Gordon *of* Earlſton, *his Depoſition before a Committee of His Majeſties Privy Council, and two of the Juſtices.* Edenburg *the* 25th *of* September, 1683.

ALexander *Gordon* being further interrogate upon the Interrogators given in anent the Conſpiracy in *England*, declares, That the firſt time he heard of any Deſign of riſing in Arms, was at the time when the competition was anent the Sheriffs at *Midſummer* was a year, and then he heard the Duke of *Monmouth* was to head the Rebels; and this he had from *John Nisbet*, and one Mr. *Murray* a Scotch-man then at *London*, and declares, That in *January* laſt the Declarant being in *Holland*, he heard by general report that the late Earl of *Argile* was to raiſe ſome thouſands of Highlanders to aſſiſt the Rebels in *England* by making a diverſion, and was to get a ſum of money for that effect; and that in *March* laſt he having received a Letter in *Holland* from *John Nisbet* then in *London*, he came over to *London*, where he met with the ſaid *Nisbet* and *Murray*, who told the Declarant, they deſigned to riſe preſently in *England*, and to Rendezvous in ſix or ſeven places at one time, particularly at *Coventry* and *London*, and that they computed ſeveral thouſands in *Yorkſhire* who where to joyn with them; That *Murray* deſired the Declarant to go along with him to meet with the late Lords *Ruſſel* and *Gray*, and the Lord *Wharton*, (but of *Wharton* they ſaid they were not very ſure, being a fearful man) and with Mr. *Ferguſon*, and ſpoke of ſeveral old Officers of *Cromwels* that were to be there, but the Declarant not being for the preſent riſing, ſhunned to meet with theſe perſons, or any of them; and both *Nisbet* and *Murray* told the Declarant, that Sir *John Cochran* was with them, and heard from theſe two perſons, that both the *Ceſſnocks* were concerned in that Buſineſs. As to the Letter written by *Jo. N.* of the 20th of *March*, and directed for the Declarant at *Rotterdam*, declares that *John Nisbet* wrote the ſaid Letter, and that under the Metaphor of Trade throughout the whole Letter, is meaned the deſign of riſing in Arms and a Rebellion; and that by the word *Diſpatching the old rotten ſtuff*, is meaned either the excluding the Sectaries from joyning with them, or deſtroying the Government, both Civil and Eccleſiaſtical, which laſt the Declarant ſuppoſes rather to be the meaning of the words; and that by the *Factors* are meaned their Emiſſaries for carrying on the Rebellion; *And for that ſtrange thing that was to fall out that Week or the next*, the Declarant thinks is meaned the ſudden muſter of the Rebels; In the cloſe of the Letter which ſays, *Things are full as high as I tell you*, is meaned that the Rebellion was inſtantly to break out; And having met with *John Nisbet* after his coming from *Holland*, the ſaid *Nisbet* explained to him that the Sence of the ſaid Letter was as is aboveſaid.

As to the little Letter directed to the Declarant under the name of *Pringle*, of the ſecond of *May*, 1683, declares that the name of the Subſcriber: which is blotted out, was ſo blotted before it came to his hand;

but by the Contents of it, he knows it is from one *Robert Johnſtoun*, a Tenant or Vaſſal to the Lord *Gray* on the Border; and that the *Traders* and *Trading* there ſpoke of, is the deſigned Rebellion; and that the ſaid *Robert Johnſtoun* offered to come into *Scotland* with the Declarant, to have ſeen ſome of our diſaffected people here, and to have met with them; and that *A. T.* mentioned in the ſaid Letter, which the Letter ſays *laboured to undervalue the diſaffected party in* Scotland, which he calls *your Goods*, is the name of *Andrew Young*, who ſtays about *Newcaſtle*, whom he ſuppoſes to be a ſuſpected perſon, becauſe he was afraid Colonel *Struthers* would apprehend him: And that he ſuppoſes the way that that Letter came to his hand, was from ſome perſon that was at a Meeting at *Tweeds-Moor* about that time, where were preſent ſeveral of theſe people that had Commiſſion from the ſeveral Diſtricts, but he himſelf was not at that Meeting. *Sic ſubſcribitur*

Linlithgow I. P. C.

Alex. Gordon.

Here follows the Letter ſigned *Jo. N.* which was found upon *Earlſton.*

Sir,

ON Saturday *laſt I had the occaſion of ſeeing a Lettter from you, directed for Mrs.* Gaunt, *in whoſe abſence Mrs.* Ward *had received it, at the reading of which I was not a little troubled, conſidering my full reſolutions ſignified to you in my laſt; for effectuating of which I had ſpoke for Paſſage, and taken my farewel of Mother* Gaunt, *ſhe going into the Country: And that very Week I was ſet upon by that Gentleman with whom I ſtay, and* Jo. Johnſtoun *with ſome others to ſtay but a Month, and if that did not accompliſh ſomewhat in hand to help* Trading, *then I ſhould be no longer detained. After I was prevailed to retract ſo far, I ordered* Jo. *who had time at command, to give you an ample account of matters; and withal.* Jo. *was deſired by our Friends from* Scotland *to ſtand here in my place the like engagements of Secrecy,* &c. *being taken, and thereupon I ordered him to ſhew you the grounds of my ſtaying, and to deſire if you inclined to croſs the Water to come this way, but ſince many are the confuſed, yea troubled thoughts that have poſſeſſed me for yielding, concerning which, as alſo my yielding to it, take the ſubſequent account.*

In my laſt, or it precedent to it, I ſhewed you that Trading *was very low here, and many breaking, which has made the Merchants (ſuch as they are) to think that* deſparate Diſeaſes muſt have deſparate Cures: *and while they have ſome Stock, it will be better to venture out, than to keep Shop and ſit ſtill till all be gone, and then they ſhall not be able to act, but let all go: Which reſolution I thought a thing not to confide in, ſeeing the moſt of them are* Fire-ſide Merchants, *and love not to venture where ſtorms are any thing apparent. But about my departing they ſhewed the Model of Affairs in ſuch order, that I ſee venture they muſt, and venture they will; whereupon firſt demanded how our Trade would be carried on. Anſwer, they knew well what Goods had proven moſt prejudicial to the Trade, and therefore they thought to inſiſt upon Negatives, in which whatever I propoſed is aſ-*

ſented

ſented to, as I find ; and thus they thought beſt to ſtill ſome Criticks in the Trade : And by this means firſt to endeavour the diſpatching the old rotten Stuff *before they order what to bring home next. This lookt ſomewhat ſtrange to me, but when I conſider all circumſtances, I think they for themſelves do beſt in it : For our Merchants I made account onely to have had ſome ſtock for to ſet the broken ones up again, and ſo bid them here farewel,* and they to try their way, and we ours; *Since they think fit that ſome of theſe whom we have found (as you will ſay, when you hear them named) treacherous dealers in our Trade, conſulted, and accordingly have done : Whereupon I fear, or rather hope that our Merchants, though broke, will rather deſire to live a while longer as they are, than joyn with ſuch,* &c. *to advance the Trade ; unleſs ſurer grounds of their fidelity be gotten, then is, or can be expected, and this is the bottom of all my ſorrow. But to proceed, I find (if all hold that is intended) that they think it is almoſt at a point to ſet forward, if they had their* Factors *home, who are gone to try how the Country will like ſuch Goods, as they are for, or againſt the making ſale off. Friends, I mean Merchants, wrote to me, that after I had ſpoken to you, poſſibly you might come this way, the better thereby to adviſe them what to do in this caſe, for I have ſignified ſomewhat of it to them, but not ſo far as this ; becauſe I thought to have ſeen you long ere this time. But I hope you will not miſconſtruct of my ſtaying, ſeeing in it I deſigned nothing but advancement of* our Trade ; *but once this Week theſe Factors ſent for will be here, and then matters will* in inſtanti, *either off or on, break, or go thorow. Wherefore in reference to Friends, I deſire you will adviſe me what to do, if you cannot, or think it not convenient to come here ; if you do, let a Letter precede, and if any* ſtrange thing *fall out this * Week or the next, I will again poſt it towards you ; I think when this and the next Week is gone (and no News comes from you) that I ſhall ſet forward, being ſtill ſo ready, as that in twelve hours I can bid adieu : The* Whiggs *are very low as well in City as in the Subburbs, all Meetings being every* Sunday *beſet with Conſtables to keep them out, and what they get is ſtollen, either at Evening or Morning. This Winter many of the great Bankers and Goldſmiths in* Lombard-ſtreet *are broken and gone : The* Bantam *Factory in the* Indies *is taken by the* Dutch: Confuſion, Confuſion *in Town and Country, ſuch as you never ſaw. Mrs.* Ward *and ſeveral others deſire to be remembred to you. My endeared reſpects to your ſelf and* B. *with the young men arrived. This I have writ in ſhort, and in haſt, expecting a Line with as great haſt as you ſee is needful, for* Matters are full as high as I tell you. *Farewel.*

* *Nota*, That this week His *Majeſty* was expected from *New-market*, but came 8 days ſooner, by reaſon of the Fire.

From your Friend and Servant, while

London, *March* 20. 1683. *Jo. N.*

Poſtſcript, Be ſure that you direct not for *Bednal-green*; but for me at Mr. *Mead*'s in *Stepney*, near *London*.

A Letter as it was written with *Argiles* own hand, which was addressed to Major *Holms*, and marked Number 3. *June* 21.

THough I cannot by this Post send you a full account of your Affairs, yet I send you as much as may make you take measures what Bills to draw upon me, which I hope you will fully understand by Mr. Bs. *help; the whole account amounted to several Pages; but I onely give you one to total, as sufficient.*

I gone so I and refuse object first you time much is way the our would of altogether concerned do upon absolutely do to do effectually as that it be to is at all be 335759424244575769 money 36 4757-5657 of and to 69224736535657 and they have is at be that no some their 2345535958, &c. 50000 4548464758 part as against the but concurrence from be less nor like place and interest is small and power against need do bring which *Birch* that cannot time are out upon an 324753235657 to 56444256594858444367 projected meat very may little done the been Purse I to shall my lists I to great venture they prospect provided have can willing God given conferrence week *Brown* I of things said some the now their my head guard mention 3243446757-48465257 things which to your hope some ago as over some if do spoke for of know and encouragement confer have and self be order resolve and to reckon all and undertake honest or was far be Shooes undertaking many of to for purchase was as is the a possibly us of by force it tho so how the credit for time *Birch* and some greatest them concerned will for and to and 404843 station good may onely the if more will if should expect tollerably standing and by and necessar the the more the hazarded to it 8 and think urge so necessar I the that so affairs have business very I possible of I send here against my till what little upon know not which mony 25405748575840524244 I service any what shall resolve thee at did least effectually thought and far if business reckoned for still the there I or stuck you upon money by first sum if then Bills 26 435640465359 52 5769455356424457 well that 3841444058 51595058458594357 need trouble something very a frighten the probably not 2000 the tho the once for and 575942 4244575735 will 4057 5748575840524244 and to money could foolish *Browne* many the not to Gods *Brand* besides stay *Job* seat yet to proposed 322240565157 a deal the things as all once less any drink well on know I as pay whether never the received to any calculate about to that that the such with you I other I I for considerable be particular add I are of lest I but all have it Enemies to cannot to Friends made part I writ wish may be service Mr. an whole there consider persons it when knowing any and payments to I it low shall little little meaning Intelligence thing out had which Tents usual whole with 673151485048584840 and by the more of if but the that blessing raise a 54565358445758405258 4753565744 can Virgins supply to call 485650405243 not keep imaginable tho them 485-3485244 standing many number 25 4753565733 onely at standing a 5159505848585943 first considerable with more can them Countrey

trey 42535151405243443 in and there 40565157 it was Weeks half I ſo to at 600 think needs preciſe I the the it a within what requiſite not Sum truly this grounds to ſay Mr. thing nor know they as hath the grounds occaſioned I they both do is Red only let I diſtance in I half in I the little would 405748575840524 2 firſt ſhall number very 1000 and the conſider ſmall confeſs them work propoſed pleaſed cannot are 2000 *Brand* it 544453545044 the be 40565157 then be 40444405648524646045847445644 43 little 455356424457575844565048-5244 have the but it will 455356574457 and as we yet together onely it for buy it conſider imploy better Intereſt ſmall ſo to ſome 47535657 a future the to total the abſolute of and deſigned and Waggons are but of propoſed or and becauſe what add as out meddle touch of I knowing Merchant there it that what is 40454048564440584451545 8 Red I not but I of expect of up I enforce at be that ſhould a is in conſiderable put I done this all have by the not to had before able will I if and a they have will is for 5753 5043485359 56 ſhall neceſſars the or of if is is they very incident for the dayly not Cloaths neceſſar to there the neceſſar beſt of the 60405639 events little to hope 5644564457 many Sum were for ſo in we them more will in and it had any many yet be may all 514850-48584840 and will it without and not but more got triple on is very 45535959 now be God and but is what a if odds it as near named not bruſh of not leſs power propoſed an of thought my and go you in or re-ſolved ſo I intend hear them our 455648445243 57 to neither to will much till any the know on in propoſition could what other I of could be the and be but that eaſie were I all differ was abſolutely ſoon more to ſent above at well right foot their together Proviſions the ſuddenly that 404258485352 will take will of the be unwilling the will can at is get *Brand* not 40565157 no ſhould the much their not and men the are be while do to advantage the husbanding for number is be for 57475344 57 only to whole Proviſions Charges good can to II my meddle Money as freely for the and be eſtates do project all after ſee be I it ſuch you all 47535657 the yet I diſtance to dare them direction Gods hands in on not prevent and have ſome help may from a a be pray very II Neceſſars and that to a occaſion prices the ſubmit they but not own had made be do men ſome of Sum be neceſſar 47535657 ſuch beſtowed nothing they one it Money of *Brand* not to ſent engaged whole with a concerned own Money next prove Money far then but ſome impoſſible firſt be be moſt to of 474456485 35657 20000 to up do tho there done caſe and yet number without hard appointed left 1200 like give will after neceſſar propoſed as ſhould leave hard had number I peremptor I 673347535657 ſtood poſſibly thoſe thought juncture I do mention this as as mean other I as neither give know offer have. *Adieu.*

	Gil.	*St.*
The total Sum is	128	---------8.

which will be payed to you by Mr. B.

Follows in plain writing on the back of the Letter

I have found two of the Books I wrote to Mr. B. were loſt, I believe he hath the blew one; we have received his Letter: I have nothing more to ſay to him at preſent; I hope he knows how to write to me, and underſtands my Addreſs, and to inſtruct you; if he do not, I have loſt ſix hours work, *Adieu.*

The Decypher of the ſaid Letter as it was done in *England.*

Sir, June 21.

THough I cannot by this Poſt ſend you a full account of your Affairs, yet I ſend you as much as may make you take meaſures what Bills to draw upon me, which I hope you will fully underſtand by Mr. B's. *help; the whole account amounted to ſeveral Pages; but I onely give you one to total, as ſufficient.*

I gone ſo I and refuſe object firſt you time much is way the our would of altogether concerned do upon abſolutely do to do effectually as that it be to is at all be 33 ſucceſs 69 Money 36 Horſe of and to 69 2 H 36 orſe and they have is at be that no ſome there 23 Foot &c. 50000 fight part as againſt the but concurrence from be leſs nor like place and intereſt is ſmall and power againſt need do bring which *Birch* that cannot time are out upon an 32 Ho 23 rſe to recruited projected Meat very may little done the been purſe I to ſhal my liſts l to great venture they proſpect provided have can willing God given conference week *Brown* I of things ſaid ſome the now there my Head guard mention 32 de 67 ſigns things which to your hope ſome ago as over ſome if do ſpoke for of know and encouragement conſer have and ſelf be order reſolve and to reckoning all and undertake honeſt or was far be Shoes undertaking many of to for purchaſe was as is the a poſſibly us of by force it tho ſo how the credit for time *Birch* and ſome greateſt them concerned will for and to and *aid* ſtation good may onely the if more will if ſhould expect tollerably ſtanding and by and neceſſar the the more the hazarded to it 8 and think urge ſo neceſſar I the that ſo affairs have buſineſs very I poſſible of I ſend hear againſt my till what little upon know not which Money 25 *Aſſiſtance* I ſervice any what ſhall reſolve the at did leaſt effectually thought and far if buſineſs reckoned for ſtill the there I or ſtuck you upon Money by firſt Sum if then Bills 20 *Dragoons* 69 *Forces* well that 38 *beat Multitudes* need trouble ſomething very a frighten the probably not 2000 the tho the once for and *ſucceſs* 35 will *aſſiſtance* and to Money could fooliſh *Brown* many the not to Gods *Brand* beſides ſtay Job ſeat yet to propoſed 32 22 *Arms* a deal the things as all once leſs any drink well on know I as pay whether never the received to any calculate about to that that the ſuch with you I other I I for conſiderable be particular add I are of leſt I but all have it Enemies to cannot to an account to Friends made part I write wiſh may be ſervice Mr. an whole there conſider perſons it when knowing any and payment to I it low ſhall little little meaning intelligence thing out had which Tents uſual whole with 67 31 *Militia* and by the more of it but the that bleſſing raiſe a *Proteſtant* Horſe can Virgins ſupply to call *Ireland* not keek imaginable tho them *joyn* ſtanding many number Horſe onely at ſtanding a multitude firſt conſiderable with more can them Countrey *commanded* in and there *Arms* it was Weeks half I ſo to at 600 think needs preciſe I the the it a within what requiſite not ſum truly this grounds to ſay Mr. thing nor know they as hath the grounds occaſioned I they both do is *Red* only let I diſtance in I half in I the little would *aſſiſtance* firſt ſhall number very 1000 and the conſider ſmall con-

feſs

feſs then work propoſed pleaſe cannot are 2000 *Brand* it *people* the be *Arms* them be *appearing* gathered little *Forces Stirling* have the but it will *Forces* and as we yet together only it for buy it conſider imploy better intereſt ſmall ſo to ſome *Horſe* a future the to total the abſolute of and deſign'd and Waggons are but of propoſed or and becauſe what add as out meddle touch I knowing Merchant there is that what is *affair attempt Red* I not but I of expect of up I enforce at be that ſhould a is in conſiderable put I done this all have by the not to had before able will I if and a they have will is for *Souldier* ſhall neceſſars the or of if is is they very incident for the daily not Cloaths neceſſar to their the neceſſar beſt of the *War* 39 events little to hope *repreſs* many ſum were for ſo in we them more will in and it had any many yet be may all *Militia* and will it without and not but more got triple on is very *Foot* now be God and but is what a if odds it as near named not Bruſh of not leſs power propoſed an of thought my and go you in or reſolved ſo I intend hear them our *friends* to neither to will much till any the know on in propoſition could what other I of could be the and be but that eaſie were I all differ was abſolutely ſoon more to ſent above at well right Foot their together proviſions the ſuddenly that *action* will take will of the be unwilling the will can at is get *Brand* not *Arms* no ſhould the much there not and Men the are be while do to advantage the Husbanding for number is be for *Shoes* only to whole proviſions charges good can I I my meddle money as freely for the an be Eſtates do project all after ſee be I it ſuch you all *Horſe* the yet I diſtance to dar them direction Gods hands in on not prevent and have ſome help may from a a be pray very I I neceſſars and that to a occaſion prices the ſubmit they but not own had made be do men ſome of ſum be neceſſar *Horſe* ſuch beſtowed nothing they one it money of *Brand* not to ſent engaged whole with a concerned own money next prove money far then but ſome impoſſible firſt be be moſt to of *Heretors* 20000 to up do tho there done caſe and yet number without hard appointed leaſt 1200 like give will after neceſſar propoſed as ſhould leave hard had number I peremptor J 67 33 *Horſe* ſtood poſſibly thoſe thought Juncture I do mention this as as mean other I as neither give know offer have. *Adieu.*

Gil. *St*

The total Sum is 128-----8.
which will be paid to you
by Mr. B.

Written in plain ſence on the back of the Letter.

I have found two of the Books I wrote to Mr. B. were loſt, I believe he hath the Blue on: we have received his Letter. I have nothing more to ſay to him at preſent: I hope he knows how to write to me, and underſtands my Addreſs, and to inſtruct you, if he do not I have loſt ſix hours work. *Adieu.*

The

The Copy of the ſaid Letter, as it was given in by Mr. Spence, *according to the plain Sence thereof, without the Preface or Poſtſcript, being ſet down already with the Cypher and Decypher.*

I Know not the grounds our Friends have gone upon, which hath occaſioned them to offer ſo little Money as I hear, neither know I what Aſſiſtance they intend to give; and till I know both, I will neither refuſe my ſervice, nor do ſo much as object againſt any thing is reſolved, till I firſt hear what Mr.* *Red*, or any other you ſend, ſhall ſay; onely in the mean time I reſolve to let you know as much of the Grounds I go on, as is poſſible at this diſtance, and in this way. I did truly in my Propoſition mention the very leaſt Sum I thought could do our Buſineſs effectually, not half of what I would have thought requiſite in an other Juncture of Affairs; and what I propoſed I thought altogether ſo far within the power of thoſe concerned, that if a little leſs could poſſibly do the Buſineſs, it would not be ſtood upon: I reckoned the aſſiſtance of the Horſe abſolutely neceſſary for the firſt Bruſh, and I do ſo ſtill: I ſhall not be peremptory to urge the preciſe number named, but I do think there needs very near that number effectually; and I think a 1000 as eaſie had as 8 or 600, and it were hard that it ſtuck at the odds; I leave it to you to conſider if all ſhould be hazarded, upon ſo ſmall a differ. As to the Money, I confeſs what was propoſed is more by half than is abſolutely neceſſary at the firſt weeks work, but ſoon after all the Sum was propoſed, and more will be neceſſary, if it pleaſe God to give ſucceſs, and then Arms cannot be ſent like Money by Bills: There are now above 1200 Horſe and Dragoons, and 2000 Foot at leaſt of ſtanding Forces in † *Brand* very well appointed and tollerably well commanded, it is right hard to expect that Countrey people on Foot, without Horſe, ſhould beat them the triple their number; and if multitudes can be got together, yet they will need more Arms, more Proviſion, and have more trouble with them: But the Caſe is, if ſomething conſiderable be not ſuddenly done at the very firſt appearing, and that there be onely a multitude gathered without action, though that may frighten a little, it will do no good, the ſtanding Forces will take up ſome ſtation, probably at *Stirling*, and will to their aid not onely have the Militia of Twenty thouſand Foot, and Two thouſand Horſe, but all the Heretors, *&c.* to the number it may be of Fifty thouſand; and though many will be unwilling to fight for the ſtanding Forces, yet the moſt part will once joyn, and many will be as coneerned for them, as any can be againſt them: and though we had at firſt the greateſt ſucceſs imaginable, yet it is impoſſible but ſome will keep together, and get ſome concurrence and aſſiſtance, not only in * *Brand* but from † *Birch* and *Ireland*; it will not then be time to call for more Arms, far

* *Carſtares.*

† *Scotland.*

* *Scotland.*

† *England.*

far leſs for Money to buy them, no Money nor Credit could ſupply it, we ſhould prove like the Fooliſh Virgins: Conſider in the next place how * *Brown* can imploy ſo much Money, and ſo many Horſe, better for their own intereſt, tho the Proteſtant Intereſt were not concerned; is it not a ſmall Summ, and a ſmall Force, to raiſe ſo many men with, and by Gods bleſſing, to repreſs the whole Power of * *Brand*, that ſome hope are engaged againſt us, beſides the Horſe to be ſent, need poſſibly ſtay but a little while to do a Job, if future events do not bring the ſeat of the War to *Brand*, which is yet more to the advantage of * *Birch*, as to the total of the Money that was propos'd by the beſt Husbanding it, cannot purchaſe Arms, and abſolute neceſſaries for one time, for a Militia of the number they are to deal with, and there is nothing out of the whole deſign'd to be beſtowed upon many things uſual, and neceſſary for ſuch an Undertaking, as Tents, Waggons, Cloaths, Shoes, Horſe, Horſe-ſhoes; all which are not only neceſſary to be once had, but dayly to be recruited, far leſs out of the whole ſumm projected, was any thing propoſed for Proviſions of Meat or Drink, Intelligence, or incident Charges; ſome very Honeſt well-meaning, and very good Men, may undertake on little, becauſe they can do little, and know little what is to be done. All I ſhall add is, I made the Reckoning as low as if I had been to pay it out of my own Purſe; and whether I meddle or meddle not, I reſolve never to touch the Money, but to order the payment of Neceſſaries, as they ſhall be received; and I ſhall freely ſubmit my ſelf to any knowing Souldier for the Liſts, and any knowing Merchant for the Prices I have calculated, when there is an occaſion to confer about it, it will be a great encouragment to perſons that have Eſtates to venture, and that conſider what they do, that they know that there is a project, and proſpect of the whole Affair, and all Neceſſaries provided for ſuch an attempt: If after I have ſpoke with Mr. † *Red*, I ſee I can do you Service, I will be very willing; if I be not able, I pray God ſome other may; but before it be given over, I wiſh I had ſuch a conference as I writ of to you a Week ago, for I expect not all from * *Browne*, ſome conſiderable part of the Horſe may I hope be made up by the help of your particular friends. I have yet ſome things to add, to enforce all I have ſaid, which I cannot at this diſtance; and ſome things are to be done to prevent the deſigns of Enemies, that I dare not now mention, leſt it ſhould put them on their Guard, I have a conſiderable direction in my head, but all is in Gods hands.

* Diſſenting Lords.

* *Scotland*

* *England*

† Carſtares.

* Diſſenting Lords.

The manner of Decyphering is explain'd more at large in another Book, called, an Account of Diſcoveries made in Scotland, *&c.*

Part of William Spence *his Depoſition.*

At the Caſtle of *Edenburgh*, the 19*th.* of *Auguſt*, 1684.

MR. *William Spence*, of the Age 33 Years, or thereby, not married, Solemnly ſworn, Depones, That in the Paper ſubſcribed by him; the Letter dated 21. *June*, and the other without date, marked *A*, are written plain, and in the true Senſe, ſo far as his knowledge reaches, and that he had no Key to open the Letters with, but the Alphabetical Cypher: That by the 128 *Gilders*, 8 *Stivers*, mentioned in the end of the long Letter, he underſtands that it is the Key thereof; and by the payment of the ſame, he underſtands the way of uſing it. That he does truly believe there was an Inſurrection intended, within theſe two Years; and as for what is to come, he cannot tell what the People abroad may be doing: That he had often heard of Deſigns and Aſſociations; but that they were directly intended to hinder the *Duke* his Succeſſion to the Crown, he cannot ſay: For all that he underſtood was pretended for the Ground of any deſigns of Arms, was the defence of the *Proteſtant Religion*, the Liberties of the Kingdom; and if againſt the *Duke* his Succeſſion only, in ſo far as that might be prejudicial to theſe; and that he thinks upon the *King's* death Troubles may probably ariſe: That Mr. *Weſt*, to whom the Letters were directed, was not one of that name; but Major *Holms*, to the beſt of his knowledge: And this is the Truth as he ſhall anſwer to God. *Sic ſubſcribitur.*

W. Spence.

The Information of Robert Smith, *formerly of the Pariſh of* Dunſcore, *in the Sheriffdom of* Dumfreis, *in the Kingdom of* Scotland.

AT all the Conventicles for near two years before the Rebellion in the year 1679. There were great Contributions of Money (which were chearfully given) under the pretence of a Subſiſtance for their Miniſters, and the Poor of their Perſwaſion (the only deſign that was known to the meaner ſort of People) but the greateſt part of the Money was employ'd for Arms and Ammunition for a General Riſing: In order whereunto the Phanaticks in the Months of *April*, *May* and *June*, 1679. were preparing themſelves, by keeping ſeveral great Field-Conventicles (both in the Weſt and South) in

in which were conſiderable Numbers of Armed Men. And although they were generally very fond and forward to put their deſign in Execution; yet it was haſtned a Month ſooner then was intended, by the Skrimiſh that happened about the middle of *June* within two Miles of *Lowdon-hill*, between a Party of his Majeſties Forces under the Command of Captain (now Colonel) *Graham* of *Claverhouſe*, and a ſtrong Field-Conventicle, in which I was my ſelf with a Party of a Troop of Horſe (levyed in *Nithsdale* in the end of *May*, and beginning of *June*) whereof I was Cornet, under Mr. *William Ferguſon* of *Caitlock*, Captain, and *John Gibſon* of *Auchinchein* Lieutenant. The ſame Night after that Skirmiſh, I was at the Earl of *Lowdon*'s Houſe with *Robert Hamilton*, *John Balfour*, and *David Haxton* (both Murderers of the late Arch-Biſhop of Saint *Andrews*) *John Ker* in *Minebole*, and ſeveral others, in number about Twenty Seven Horſe. The Earl himſelf was in the Houſe, and I ſaw him paſs into the Garden; but I did not perceive that he came into our Company, though I have reaſon to believe that *Robert Hamilton* was with his Lordſhip and his Lady in ſome of the Chambers, becauſe I ſaw him leaving us all of his Company in the great Hall, and going into the private Rooms, where I am ſure was my Lady, as I do not not doubt but my Lord was alſo, for it was from thence that I ſaw him paſs into the Garden: But my Lady did publickly that Night entertain and lodge all the Company. The next morning at four of the Clock we came from that Earls Houſe, and made all the haſte we could to *Hamilton*, in order to joyn the Body that we had parted with the day before; and the next day we all Marched to *Glaſgow*, where (the morning after) we were beaten by ſome Troops and Companies of the King's Forces, and thereupon returned to *Hamilton*. From thence I went in Company of Mr. *David Williamſon* (who was a Preacher and a Captain) with Sixſcore Horſe to the Shire of *Galloway*, where we met and joyned Six Troops of Horſe and about as many Companies of Foot that were Levyed in that Country and *Nithſdale* for our Aſſiſtance. Thereafter we went into *Dumfreis* where we ſtay'd a night, and had notice of the Kings Forces coming to the *Kirk* of *Shots*; whereupon we march'd with all poſſible Diligence to joyn the reſt of the Rebels at *Hamilton*; ſeizing all the Arms and Horſes that we could find by the way, eſpecially at *Drumlanriq*, *Thorn-hill*, *Sanehar*, *Cumnock*, *Ceſnock*, *Newmills* and *Strevin*; but at *Ceſnock* we received four hundred Lances, which we were told were the free and voluntary Gift of Sir *Hugh Campbell*, the Father, and Sir *George*, the Son. There was one paſſage in this march, which I cannot forbare to relate, *viz.* That as we were paſſing by the old Caſtle of *Treve* (where his late Majeſty of bleſſed Memory had a Garriſon, in the beginning of the unhappy Troubles of his Reign) Old *Gordon* of *Earlſtown* (who in few days after was killed at *Bothwell-Bridge*) in my hearing ſpoke to the Officers that were about him as followeth, *Gentlemen, I was the Man that commanded the Party which took this Caſtle from the late King, who had in it about* 200 *of the Name of* Maxwell, *of whom the greateſt part being Papiſts we put them all to the Sword, and demolliſh'd the Caſtle, as you ſee it: And now (though an Old Man) I take up Arms againſt the Son, whom I hope to ſee go the ſame way that his Father went: For we can never put truſt*

truſt in a Covenant-Breaker; So Gentlemen, your Cauſe is good, ye need not fear to fight againſt a forſworn King.

Upon *Saturday* the 21*ſt.* of *June*, 1679. the main Body of the Rebels came to *Hamilton*, and lay encamped betwixt that place, and *Bothwell-Bridge* until *Sunday* the 29*th.* when we were defeated by the King's Forces, During which time there came to our Camp great ſtore of Proviſions and Arms from *Glaſgow*, *Hamilton*, *Lanrick*, *Leſmahago*, *Newmills*, and ſeveral other places in *Cliſdale*, and the parts adjacent; but I do not know the particular Perſons from whom they were ſent, ſave only what I have ſaid concerning our receiving the 400 Lances at *Ceſnock*: But about a week before our coming to that Place, as we were paſſing by the Earl of *Galloway*'s Houſe of *Garlis*, his Brother the Laird of *Rymſtone* came to ſee ſome of the Gentlemen that were of our number, and accompani'd us Ten or Twelve Miles, returning aftewards to his Houſe; but before his going he gave Aſſurance that both his Brother, the Earl of *Galloway* the Lord *Kenmore* and himſelf were our Friends: And I did hear him giving great Incouragement to the meaner ſort of People that were in Arms with us, by bidding them to be Chearful and Couragious; for he did aſſure them that they had very good Friends in the Country; and we did believe that within few days thereafter, as well the Earl of *Galloway*, and Lord *Kenmore*, as the ſaid Laird of *Rymſtone* would come and joyn with us, and had we been able to continue ſome time longer together in a conſiderable Body, and had given the leaſt fail to the King's Forces, we expected that many Perſons of great Quality and Intereſt, would have joyn'd with us: Whereof a perfect Account can be given by *Earlſtown* (now a Priſoner in *Edinburg*) if he will but ingenuouſly declare what he knows.

The Night before the Fight, the Rebels (one *Hamilton Moor*) held a Council of War, conſiſting of *Robert Hamilton*, *David Haxton* of *Rathillett*, *John Balfour*, *Major Ledmont*, *Mackerellan* of *Barſcob*, *Gordon* of *Home*, Mr. *William Ferguſon* of *Caitloch*, (my Captain aforeſaid,) *Gordon* of *Craig*, *Gorton* of *Newtoun*, *Gordon* of *Earlſtone* Elder, *Gordon* of *Earlſtone* Younger, *Gordon* of *Craichlaw*, Captain *Mackculloch*, *Macdougall* of *Freugh*, Captain *John Smith*, Captain *Home*, Mr. *William Cleland* a Captain of Horſe, Mr. *James Fowler* a Captain of Foot, *Andrew Story* a Captain of Foot, and ſeveral other Gentlemen and Officers, whoſe Names I do not at the preſent remember, but do well know the Places of their abode. There were alſo ſeveral of the Miniſters in this Council of War, *viz.* Mr. *John Welch*, Mr. *Robert Archiebald*, Mr. *Alexander Haſty*, Mr. *David Williamſon* (who alſo as I have ſaid before was Captain of a Troop of Horſe) Mr. *David Home*, Mr. *John Blakater*, Mr. *John Blackloth*, Mr. *Donald Cargil*, Mr. *John Kid*, Mr. *John King*, Mr. *John Dick*, Mr. *Thomas Forreſter*, Mr. *John Dickſon*, Mr. *Robert Sandilauds*, Mr. *Patrick Vernatt*, and Mr. *John Harraway* with ſome others: But at this time Mr. *Richard Camron* and his Brother Mr. *Michael*, with ſome few other Miniſters were gone to *Holland* with Moneys to pay for Arms that were formerly brought by *Kerſland*'s Son (as I was ſince inform'd) and ſome other Pha-

Phanaticks living there. In this Council there were very hot debates betwixt *Welch*'s Party (the moſt conſiderable of the two) who were content to lay down Arms upon their getting an Indulgence, and *Robert Hamilton*'s Party who would reſt ſatisfied with nothing leſs than the Extirpation of Epiſcopacy, and ſetting up a pure Preſbyterian Government, as they call'd it. And the Differences were ſo great betwixt them, that the choice of their chief Officers (which was deſign'd to have been that Night) was put off till the next day, (being *Sunday*) at Ten in the Forenoon; but were prevented by the King's Army coming before Sun-riſing, to the North-end of *Bothwel-Bridge*: However, they did that Night appoint two Commiſſioners, (*viz.* Mr. *David Home* and Captain *Mackculloch*) to treat for them with the Duke of *Monmouth*: On whom they waited accordingly about half an Hour before the Fight, but returned without any Succeſs. The general Diſcourſe amongſt the Rebels on *Friday* and *Saturday* was, That the Lord *Burgany* would certainly come in to them the *Monday* following (had not the Fight on *Sunday* prevented him) to command their Forces in chief, and to appoint ſuch Field Officers, both for the Horſe and Foot as he ſhould think fit, unleſs they had been appointed by the Council of War before his coming; but in either of the Caſes they were to have had their Commiſſions from him: For it was moſt certain, that they would not allow *Robert Hamilton* to be their Commander in chief The Rebels did frequently and openly expreſs the great Confidence they had in ſome of their Friends about the Duke of *Monmouth*, and particularly the Lord *Melvil*, the Lord *Newark*, Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, and Sir *Hamilton* of *Preſton* (the Elder Brother of *Robert Hamilton*) beſides ſome others whom I do not now remember, but could know them, if I ſhould hear their Names.

When the King's ſtanding Forces begun to paſs the *Bridge*, the chief Officers of the Rebels were conſulting what was fit for them to do, and it was reſolved that they ſhould all March away in good Order towards *Carrick*, and the Ruins of *Galloway*, until they ſhould be furniſhed with Arms and Ammunition, which were Landed at *Borrowſtenneſs* (beſides what was expected from *Holland*) but could not then be brought to them, by Reaſon of the King's Army having been interpoſed between them and that Place. And moreover they were in Expectation of conſiderable Reinforcements both of Horſe and Foot, which were on their March from ſeveral parts of the Country. But their chief Encouragement to proſecute this Deſign, was the Confidence they had, that the Duke of *Monmouth* would not put any hardſhip upon them; which I have good Reaſon to believe was true; for when I was in Company with all the Rebels Horſe (about 1600. in number) leſs than a mile from the Field of Battle, marching up on a riſing Ground (in our Retreat) I look'd over my Shoulder, and ſaw the King's Horſe at a ſtand, after they had purſued us a little way, which we look'd upon as having been done to favor our eſcape: For if they had follow'd us, they had certainly kill'd or taken us all, a few only excepted, who were very well mounted; and we were often afterwards told, that they were ſtopt by the Duke of *Monmouth*'s poſitive Command, when they were violently purſuing us, after they had quite broke our Foot (conſiſt-

ing upwards of 4000.) and were within leſs than half a mile of the Body of our Horſe (running away) which then was in great Conſternation and Confuſion: However, we march'd that forenoon in as good Order as we could (twelve miles over a Moor) to *Newmills*, without any of his Majeſties Forces giving us the leaſt Diſturbance, where we ſeparated, ſome going towards *Air*, others to *Galloway*, and the reſt to *Nithſdale*; amongſt which laſt, were the moſt reſolute of the Officers, to the number of betwixt 45 and 50; who continued together in Arms, going up and down the Country in *Galloway*, *Nithſdale* and other places thereabouts (after all the reſt were ſcattered) until a Party of the King's Forces, under the Command of *Claverhouſe* came into *Galloway*, and then we (for I was my ſelf all along with that ſmall remainder of the Rebels) went into the *Weſt*, where we were moſt kindly entertain'd in many places, though I do not remember the Names of the Perſons by whom: But I do well know their Habitations; and I was afterwards told by *Mr. Richard Camron*, and his Brother *Mr. Michael*, that they and ſeveral others were ſheltered and entertained by Sir *Hugh*, and Sir *George Campbells* at their Houſe of *Ceſnock*. After ſome ſtay in the Weſt, I returned to my own Houſe (*Kilroy*) within four miles of *Dumfreis*, where having ſtaid about five or ſix weeks, the ſaid *Mr. Richard Camron*, and his Brother *Mr. Michael* (who were ſome ſhort time before returned from *Holland*) came to ſee me, and ſtay'd with me two Nights: They told me, that they had bought four ſmall Braſs Guns with a conſiderable quantity of Ammunition and Fire-Arms, which they had in a Readineſs, to have been Shipp'd at *Amſterdan*, in Order to their having been landed at *Greenock*) when they receiv'd the News of the Defeat at *Botkwell-Bridge*: Whereupon they put up the ſaid Guns, Arms and Ammunition in a ſecure place in *Amſterdam*, until there ſhould be Occaſion for them. The *Sunday* after their coming to my Houſe, Mr. *Richard Camron* kept a Field-Conventicle within a mile of Sir *Robert Dalyell's* Houſe, where were about three thouſand in number. The Occaſion of this Meeting (where I was preſent) was to ſee how the Country ſtood inclin'd, and who would joyn with him. From thence the ſaid Mr. *Richard* carry'd with him twenty Men (whereof I was one) to the Laird of St. *John's Kirk* (a Couſin of the Lord *Carmichael's*, and I ſuppoſe his Name is alſo *Carmichael*,) whoſe Houſe is about two miles from *Biggar*, and towards thirty from *Edinburg*, where we ſtay'd four days: During which, there was ſeveral Conventicles kept in the Houſe, at which, the Laird and his Lady were conſtantly preſent: And the *Sunday* after we kept a Field-Conventicle on *Tinto-Hill*, to which, there was People gather'd from all Parts of the Country thereabout, to the number of between three or four Thouſand, whereof many were well Arm'd. From this Hill I went with Mr. *Richard Camron* aforeſaid, and upwards of twenty more to the Lady *Gilkerſclengks's* Houſe (a Widow Lady) in *Clidſdale*, where we ſtay'd a Week, and kept ſeveral Conventicles with her. About this time the Duke was come to *Scotland*, and whilſt we were in this Houſe, it was one Night at Supper propos'd by *Haxtoun* to kill his Royal Highneſs, the ſaid Lady being preſent together with the two *Camrons*, four Gentlemen of the *North*, whom I knew not, and two of my Neighbors whoſe Names are *John Harper*, and *Robert Nalſon*.

This

This *Haxtoun* ſaid he would do it himſelf if he could come at him; and thought, that it might beſt be done when the Duke was at Dinner; wherefore he asked, If there were any there that would go and obſerve all the manner of his Royal Highneſſe's Dining? Whether People might get into the Room to ſee him at Dinner? And if there were any Number, or Crowds of People got in? Saying, That he was too well known to go upon this Errand himſelf. So Mr. *Michael Camron* undertook it, and took me along with him, who were particularly inſtructed to obſerve, whether people could go in with large Coats or Cloaks upon them, and Women with Plads; and whether they could paſs the Sentinels with their Swords: And according as he ſhould find matters, he would afterwards contrive the beſt way to effect the Buſineſs. Accordingly we two went, and ſaw the Duke at Dinner; but as we returned to our Lodging, at one *Danald Mackay's* Houſe, at the Head of the *Cowgate*, near the *Graſs-market*, *Camron* (by chance) met there a man which knew him; whereupon we both betook our ſelves immediately to our Horſes, and were purſued by Twelve of the King's Dragoons, who followed us ſo cloſe, that we were forced to part Company; and I went to my own Houſe, where being again in danger by a Party of *Claverhouſe* his Troop, and not thinking my ſelf ſafe, I came into *England*, where I continued three years, and was at many Preſbyterian Houſe-Conventicles in *Shrewsbury*, *Brummigham* and *Briſtol*; but never ſee a Field-Conventicle in this Kingdom, ſave one at *Clee-hill* (ſome few miles diſtant from *Ludlow*) upon a *Sunday* in *May*, 1681, where were met to the number of upwards of 1000; and ſome of Note were amongſt them; but I do only remember the Names of Mr. *Burton* (a Lawyer whoſe Country-Reſidence is in *Shropſhire*) and Mr. *Wardin*, a Merchant in *Brummigham*, beſides the two Miniſters who preached there, whoſe Names are Mr. *Thomas Eagleſall*, who lived in a little Market Town (called *Kinver*) in *Worceſterſhire*, near Juſtice *Foley's* Houſe, and Mr. *Thomas Caſe*, who lived near *Shrewsbury*; and their Sermons were wholly tending to raiſe Faction and Sedition, in the ſame manner as I have too frequently heard in the Field-Conventicles in *Scotland*. About a year and half ago I went over into *Holland*, when I ſaw the (ſince deceaſed) Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and the late Earl of *Argile*, at *Amſterdam*; but did not ſpeak with either of them; and ſaw *Ferguſon* at *Rotterdam*, with whom I ſpoke; but nothing concerning the Government. Then Mr. *John Hog*, and the other *Scotch* Miniſters belonging to *Rotterdam* (knowing that I was in the Rebellion, and could not ſafely live at Home) adviſed me to enter my ſelf a Souldier in the Prince of *Orange's* Army; which I did accordingly in Colonel *James Douglas's* Regiment, in his own Company, where I ſerved a Year; and then became known to Mr. *Thomas Maxwell*, a Captain in that Regiment, whoſe Countrey-man I am; and he underſtanding that I was fled from home upon the Account of my Acceſſion to that Rebellion, told me how fair an Opportunity I had to ſerve the King, by making a full Diſcovery of all Perſons that I knew to be guilty of it, or any ways aiding and aſſiſting towards the promoting the ſame. Adding, that if I would follow his Advice in that matter, he doubted not of his putting me in a way to deſerve

ſerve and obtain the King's Remiſſion, whereby I might be enabled to live peaceably at home hereafter. To which I did very readily conſent: And he having thereupon (the 12*th.* of *November* laſt) obtained my Diſcharge from my Colonel, I have ſince diſcovered what I could. And particularly that at *Rotterdam* (ſince my ſaid Diſcharge) I had ſeen ſeveral of the Whiggiſh Miniſters, ſome whereof I remember were at *Bothwel-Bridge*, who came from *Scotland* about the beginning of *September* laſt, *viz.* Mr. *Thomas Forreſter*, and Mr. *Patrick Vernatt* (formerly mentioned in the Council of War) who preach frequently in the *Scots* Church at *Rotterdam*, As do Mr. *Gordon* (who is Brother to *James Gordon*, a Merchant there lately deceaſed) Mr. *John Harvey*, Mr. *George Barclay*, and Mr. *John Sinclair*, all Phanatick Preachers. The moſt part of whom (as the above-mentioned Mr. *Forreſter* told me) went over from *Holland* into *Scotland*, about the month of *Auguſt* laſt; but that they found themſelves in ſuch daily Hazards of being apprehended, that they returned back again to *Holland*; and that this bad News which they brought over with them, is the reaſon why *Robert Hamilton's* late intended Journey to *Scotland* was put off, whither I was ſometime before informed he did intend to go, and to carry Arms along with him to ſome of his Friends there. The ſaid *Forreſter* told me further, That they reſolve to keep no more Field-Conventicles, finding, that thoſe Meetings have ſerved only to weaken their Party, through the ſeizing of ſome, and diſperſing the reſt (which made their Friends publickly known) and that now the *Engliſh* and they joyn Councils, and reſolve to go on more warily. I did likewiſe diſcover, that the manner of the ſaid Miniſters, their paſſing to and fro betwixt *Holland* and *Scotland* undiſcovered, was by their being clad in Sea-mans Cloaths, and working in the Ships as Sea-men. As alſo, that I was perſwaded, before they ſhall attempt any thing towards a new Rebellion, or making uſe of the Arms, that the two *Camrons* left in *Amſterdam* (which are now in the Cuſtody of the late Earl of *Argile*, as I was told about nine Weeks ago in *Utrecht*, by Sir *John Cochran's* ſecond Son, and *Mr. William Cleland*, mentioned in the Council of War) they will firſt endeavor to diſpatch the King; and that being done, they doubted not but they could ſoon overcome the Duke, and all others that would oppoſe them: Which I heard my ſelf diſcourſed in a *Meeting* about two months ago, at Mr. *Thomas Hog*, a Phanatick Preacher his Houſe in *Utrecht*, where were preſent (beſides *Mr. Hog*, and my ſelf) Sir *John Cochran's* Son, and Mr. *Cleland*, already mentioned, *Mr. James Steward*, the Lawyer, his Lady, the Lady *Kerſland*, and her Son, with ſeveral others, whoſe Names I do not remember: But this Language they ſpeak only amongſt their confident Friends: For they make the common ſort of People believe, that there was no ſuch thing as a Phanatick-Plot; but that the raiſing of that Report was a Contrivance of the Papiſts, to make uſe of falſe Witneſſes, for taking away the Lives of True Proteſtants; which I have often heard, not only diſcourſed in Houſes where ſome of the ordinary ſort of People were in Company; but alſo preached in the Churches, where the Sermons (for

the

Oath) to bring up their Children in the true Proteſtant Faith, and in the Diſcipline and Doctrine of the Kirk of *Scotland*, according as they are obliged by the Solemn League and Covenant; and at their Communions, debarring always from their Sacrament all ſuch as have not taken the Covenant, and do not adhere to it. But of all the Fugitive Preachers lately gone over from *Scotland* into *Holland*, none is more perverſely violent againſt the Government, than *Mr. John Sinelair* (who for many years was *Miniſter*, and kept a Boarding School at *Ormieſtoun*) whom about twelve Weeks ago I heard preach in the *Scotch* Church at *Rotterdam*; and a great part of his Sermon was railing againſt the Duke, and the Privy Council of *Scotland*, ſaying, That he (meaning his Royal Highneſs) was a Rebellious Enemy of God; and had got ſuch a Hand over thoſe perjur'd Rogues (meaning the Lords of the Privy Council) as they all intended to overturn the Proteſtant Religion, and to introduce Popery; which (he further ſaid) could very eaſily be done, conſidering the ſmall Difference that is betwixt them ſince Epiſcopacy was re-eſtabliſhed; and in his Prayer after Sermon, I heard him pray earneſtly, That God might open the King's Eyes, to let him ſee the Evil of his Ways, and turn from it; otherwiſe, That God might take him out of this World, from being a Curſe, and a Scourge to his Holy People. And further prayed, That God would turn the Counſels of his Councellors, as he did that of *Achitophel* into nothing.

The late Earl of *Argile* lives now in the Province of *Friſland*, where he has a ſmall Eſtate, purchaſed partly by his Father, and partly by himſelf; upon one of their Family or Tenants foretelling many years ago, that they ſhould be driven from their Eſtate in *Scotland*, as I was often told in *Holland*, particularly by Mr. *John Hog* Miniſter of the *Scotch* Church in *Rotterdam* and Mr. *John Pitcairne*, who keeps a Meeting-houſe at *Utrecht*. The Earl of *Loudon* with two Servants only, and Sir *James Dalrymple* of *Stair* with his whole Family, live at *Leyden*, beſides Mr. *Douglas* (a Miniſter) and ſome few more whoſe names I do not remember. There are many Phanatick Houſe-keepers in *Rotterdam*, who harbour the Rebels and Fugitives that come over from *Scotland*, Viz. *Robert Gibs*, Mr. *Liviſtonne*, *John Gibbs*, Mr. *Ruſſell*, *James Delapp*, *James Thomſon*, *John Greirſon*, *James Nory*, *John Jack*, *George Weir*, all Merchants, and the Widdow of the lately Deceaſed *James Gordon* Merchant, whoſe Houſe was the Common Receptacle of the chief of thoſe Rebels and Fugitives. The Gentlemen that I left at *Rotterdam* are, Mr. *Denham* of *Weſtsheills* with his Family, Captain *William Cleland*, *John Belfour*, with his Family, Captain *William Ferguſon* of *Caitloch* with his Family, Captain *Andrew Story*. The Miniſters there are Mr. *John Hog*, Mr. *Robert Fleeming* (ſetled Preachers of the *Scotch* Church) Mr. *John Harraway*, Mr. *Thomas Forreſter*, Mr. *Alexander Haſty*, Mr. *Patrick Vernat*, Mr. *John Blakater*, Mr. *Gordon*, Mr. *George Barclay* and Mr. *John Sinclair* aforeſaid, who is now ſettled a Preacher in the *Engliſh* Church at *Delfe*. At *Utrecht* I left Mr. *James Stewart* the Lawyer with his Family, and his Elder Brother the Laird of *Coldneſſe*, Mr. *Cochran* (Sir *John*'s Second Son) the Lady *Kerſland* and her Son, and Six Miniſters, *Viz.* Mr. *Thomas Hogg*, Mr. *John Pitcairne*,

Mr. *John Ogilvy*, Mr. *John Veitche*, Mr. *Robert Ker* and Mr. *Robert Menteath*, beſides ſome others of leſs Note, whoſe names I do not remember I left at *Utrecht* three *Engliſh* Gentlemen who lived there for ſome time before, and go by the Names of Eſquire *Packwood*, *Mr. Smith* a Merchant of *London*, and *Mr. Jones* a *Welſh-man*, but I do not believe that theſe are their true Names for they fled from *England* upon the Diſcovery of the late Plot, as did likewiſe ſeveral other *Engliſhmen*, whom I did often ſee there, but could not learn their Names. I did alſo ſee and ſpeak with Sir *John Cochran*, but he and 7. or 8. *Scotchmen* more (whoſe names I know not) went two days after my Arrival there, to *Gilderland*, where a great many of the Rebels and Fugitives live (as they think) moſt ſafe and at eaſe amongſt the Bores; for they were afraid of Staying at *Utrecht* (as ſome of themſelves told me) by reaſon of the Spies that they were informed were ſent thither from *England* to make enquiry after ſuch of his *Majeſties* Subjects as lived there. And *Mr. Cochran* and Captain *Cleland* told me as their Friend, that the report amongſt our Countrymen was that I likewiſe was ſent thither as a Spie; which although they did not believe, yet they adviſed me to be gone away privately, aſſuring me withal that I was every hour I ſtayed there in hazard of loſing my Life. Upon this I returned to *Rotterdam*, where my Credit with that Party continued about a week, untill I was ſuſpected by my old Captain and three of the Miniſters, *Viz. Harraway*, *Forreſter* and *Sinclair*, who about 7 or 8 Weeks ago carried me with them to Church, and there propoſed (as a Teſt of my Sincerity to the intereſt of the good Cauſe as it was commonly called) that I ſhould take the Covenant and the Sacrament with a Solemn Proteſtation that I am ſtill (as I have been in former times) an Enemy to the King and the preſent Government: All which I refuſed to do; and then they debarred me for ever from their Meetings and Company: Nevertheleſs I did often thereafter inſinuate my ſelf into both, though without any Succeſs; for I could not recover their good opinion, but on the contrary was daily threatned with the ſevereſt effects of their revenge.

White-hall,

24 *Feb.* 168¼. *Robert Smith.*

The

The Information of Zachariah Bourne *taken the* 5th. *of* December, 1683.

THat *Mr. Bayly* ſat up one night, if not two, with *Mr. Ferguſon*, and went ſeveral times in the Evening, with him to the Duke of *Monmouth*, and the cheif managers of the Conſpiracy: *Ferguſon* told me, he was the Cheif man for the *Scots*, next the Lord *Argile*. The Night he ſat up with *Ferguſon*, I believe it was about the Declaration, for the next day he was going to ſhew it me, but ſome body came up to him, and hinder'd him. *Mr. Bayly*'s great buſineſs to meet the Cheif Conſpirators was (as *Ferguſon* told me) to get the 10000. *l.* for the buying of Arms, for the Inſurrection in *Scotland*.

Caſtares I ſaw often come to *Ferguſon*, but for any Diſcourſe he had with him he never told me of, or with any other but *Mr. Bayly*, as I can at preſent remember.

Zec. Bourne.

The Depoſition of Mr. William Carſtares, *when he was Examined before the Lords of Secret Committee, given in by him, and renewed upon Oath, upon the* 22d. *of* December, 1684. *in preſence of the Lords of His Majeſty's Privy-Council.*

Edinburgh-Caſtle, *September* 8. 1684.

MR. *William Carſtares* being Examin'd upon Oath, conform to the Condeſcention given in by him, and on the Terms therein-mention'd, Depones, That about *November* or *December*, 1682. *James Stuart*, Brother to the Laird of *Cultneſs*, wrote a Letter to him from *Holland*, importing, that if any conſiderable ſum of Money could

could be procur'd from *England*, that ſomething of Importance might be done in *Scotland*: The which Letter, the Deponent had an Inclination to inform *Shepard* in *Abb-Church-lane*, Merchant in *London* of; but before he could do it, he wrote to Mr. *Stuart* above-nam'd, to know from him if he might do it; and Mr. *Stuart* having conſented, he Communicat the ſaid Letter to Mr: *Shepard*, who told the Deponent that he would Communicat the Contents of it to ſome perſons in *England*; but did at that time name no body, as the Deponent, thinks: Some time thereafter, Mr. *Shepard* told the Deponent, that he had Communicat the Contents of the Letter above-named to Colonel *Sidney*, and that Colonel *Danvers* was preſent, and told the Deponent, that Colonel *Sidney* was averſe from imploying the late Earl of *Argile*, or medling with him, judging him a man too much affected to the Royal Family, and inclined to the preſent Church-Government; yet Mr. *Shepard* being put upon it by the Deponent, ſtill urg'd, that one might be ſent to the Earl of *Argile*, but as Mr. *Shepard* told him, he was ſuſpected upon the account of his urging ſo much; yet afterwards he preſs'd, without the Deponents knowledge, that the Deponent being to go to *Holland* however, might have ſome Commiſſion to the Earl of *Argile*, which he having inform'd the Deponent of, the Deponent told him, that he himſelf would not be concern'd, but if they would ſend another he would introduce him; but nothing of this was done: upon which the Deponent went over, without Commiſſion from any body, to *Holland*, never meeting with *James Stuart* above-named: He was introduced to the Earl of *Argile*, with whom he had never before convers'd; and did there diſcourſe what had paſt betwixt Mr. *Shepard* and him; and particularly, about remitting of Money to the ſaid Earl from *England*; of which, the ſaid Mr. *Stuart* had written to the Deponent, namely of 30000 pounds *Sterling*; and of the raiſing of 1000 Horſe and Dragoons; and the ſecuring the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, as a matter of the greateſt importance: The method of doing this was propos'd by the Deponent, to be one hour, or thereby, after the relieving of the Guards: But the Earl did not reliſh this propoſition, as dangerous; and that the Caſtles would fall of conſequence, after the work abroad was done. *James Stuart* was of the Deponents Opinion, for ſeizing the Caſtle; becauſe it would ſecure *Edinburgh*, the Magazines and Arms. As to the 1000 Horſe and Dragoons, my Lord *Argile* was of Opinion, that without them nothing was to be done; and that if that number was raiſs'd in *England* to the ſaid Earl, he would come into *Scotland* with them; and that there being ſo few Horſe and Dragoons to meet them, he judg'd he might get the Country without trouble, having ſuch a ſtanding Body for their Friends to Rendezvouz to; and the ſaid Earl ſaid he could ſhew the Deponent the convenient places for Landing, if he underſtood, and as the Deponent remembers, where the Ships could attend. The Deponent remembers not the Names of the Places. The Deponent ſpoke to the Lord *Stairs*, but cannot be poſitive that he nam'd the Affair to him, but found him ſhie: but the Earl of *Argile* told him, he thought *Stairs* might be gain'd to them: And that the Earl of *Lowdoun* being a man of good Reaſon and diſoblig'd, would have great influence upon the Country, and recommended the Deponent to

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Major

Major *Holms*, with whom the Deponent had ſome acquaintance before, and had brought over a Letter from him to the Earl of *Argile*; but the Deponent had not then communicate any thing to the ſaid *Holms*. *James Stuart* laid down a way of correſpondence by Cyphers and falſe Names, and ſent them over to *Holms*, and the Deponent, for their uſe (which Cyphers and Names are now in the hands of His Majeſty's Officers, as the Deponent ſuppoſes,) and did deſire the Deponent earneſtly to propoſe the 30000 pound *Sterling* above-named to the Party in *England*, and did not propoſe any leſs; for as the Earl told the Deponent, he had particularly calculate the Expence for Arms, Ammunition, *&c.* But *James Stuart* ſaid, that if ſome leſs could be had, the Earl would content himſelf, if better might not be, but the Earl always ſaid that there was nothing to be done without the body of Horſe and Dragoons above-mentioned; During the time of the Deponent his abode in *Holland* tho he had ſeveral Leters from *Shepard*, yet there was no ſatisfactory account, till ſome time after the Deponent parted from the Earl of *Argile*, and was making for a Ship at *Rotterdam* to tranſport himſelf to *England*. *James Stuart* wrote to him that there was hopes of the Money. The next day after the Deponent came to *England*, he met with Sir *John Cochran*, who with Cnmmiſſar *Monro*, and *Jerviſwood*, was at *London* before he came over; and depones, That he knows not the account of their coming, more than for the perfecting the Tranſaction about *Carolina*: and having acquainted Sir *John Cochran* with the Earls demands of the 30000 pound *Sterling*, and the 1000 Horſe and Dragoons, Sir *John* carried him to the Lord *Ruſſel*, to whom the Deponent propoſed the Affair, but being an abſolute Stranger to the Deponent, had no return from him at that time; but afterwards having met him accidenly at Mr. *Shepards* houſe, where the Lord *Ruſſel* had come to ſpeak to *Shepard* about the Money above-named, as Mr. *Shepard* told the Deponent. The Deponent (when they were done ſpeaking) deſired to ſpeak to the Lord *Ruſſel*, which the Lord *Ruſſel* did, and having reiterate the former Propoſition for the 30000 pound *Sterling*, and the 1000 Horſe and Dragoons, he the Lord *Ruſſel* told the Deponent, they could not get ſo much raiſed at the time, but if they had 10000 pound to begin, that would draw People in, and when they were once in, they would ſoon be brought to more; but as for the 1000 Horſe and Dragoons, he could ſay nothing at the preſent, for that behoved to be concerted upon the Borders. The Deponent made the ſame propoſal to Mr. *Ferguſon*, who was much concerned in the Affair, and zealous for the promoting of it. This Mr. *Ferguſon* had in *October* or *November* before, as the Deponent remembers in a Converſation with the Deponent in *Cheap-ſide*, or the Street ſomewhere thereabout, ſaid, that for the ſaving of Innocent Blood, it would be neceſſary to cut off a few, inſinuating the King and Duke, but cannot be poſitive whether he named them or not; To which the Deponent ſaid, that's work for our wild People in *Scotland*, my Conſcience does not ſerve me for ſuch things; after which the Deponent had never any particular diſcourſe with *Ferguſon* as to that matter; but as to the other Affair, *Ferguſon* told the Deponent that he was doing what he could to get it effectuate; as particularly that he ſpoke to one Major *Wildman*

who is not of the Deponent his acquaintance. *Ferguſon* blamed always *Sidney*, as driving deſigns of his own. The Deponent met twice or thrice with the Lord *Melvil*, Sir *John Cochran*, *Jerviſwood*, Commiſſar *Monro*, the two *Ceſſnocks*, *Montgomery* of *Langſhaw*, and one Mr. *Veatch*, where they diſcourſed of Money to be ſent to *Argile*, in order to the carrying on the Affair; and tho he cannot be poſitive the Affair was named, yet it was underſtood by himſelf, and as he conceives by all preſent, to be for riſing in Arms, for rectifying the Government. Commiſſar *Monro*, Lord *Melvil*, and the two *Ceſſnocks* were againſt medling with the *Engliſh*, becauſe they judged them men that would talk, and would not do, but were more inclined to do ſomething by themſelves, if it could be done. The Lord *Melvil* thought every thing hazardous, and therefore the Deponent cannot ſay he was poſitive in any thing, but was moſt inclined to have the Duke of *Monmouth* to head them in *Scotland*, of which no particular method was laid down. *Jerviſwood*, the Deponent, and Mr. *Veatch*, were for taking the Money; at one of theſe Meetings it was reſolved, that Mr. *Martin*, late Clerk of the Juſtice Court, ſhould be ſent to *Scotland*, to deſire their Friends to hinder the Country from Riſing or taking raſh Reſolutions upon the account of the Council, till they ſhould ſee how matters went in *England*. The ſaid *Martin* did go at the Charges of the Gentlemen of the Meeting, and was directed to the Laird of *Polwart* and *Torwoodlie*, who ſent back word, that it would not be found ſo eaſie a matter to get the Gentry of *Scotland* to concur: But afterwards in a Letter to Commiſſar *Monro*, *Polwart* wrote that the Country was readier to concur then they had imagined, or ſomething to that purpoſe. The Deponent, as above-ſaid, having brought over a Key from *Holland*, to ſerve himſelf and Major *Holms*, he remembers not that ever he had an exact Copy of it, but that ſometimes the one, ſometimes the other keeped it, and ſo it chanced to be in his Cuſtody when a Letter from the Earl of *Argile* came to Major *Holms*, intimating, that the would joyn with the Duke of *Monmouth*, and follow his Meaſures, or obey his Directions: this Mr. *Veatch* thought fit to communicate to the Duke of *Monmouth*, and for the Underſtanding of it was brought to the Deponent, and he gave the Key to Mr. *Veatch*, who as the Deponent was inform'd, was to give it and the Letter to Mr, *Ferguſon*, and he to ſhew it to the Duke of *Monmouth*; but what was done in it the Deponent knows not. The Deponent heard the Deſign of killing the King and Duke, from Mr. *Shepard*, who told the Deponent ſome were full upon it. The Deponent heard that *Aaron Smith* was ſent by thoſe in *England* to call Sir *John Cochran*, on the account of *Carolina*, but that he does not know *Aaron Smith*, nor any more of that Matter, not being concern'd in it. *Shepard* nam'd young *Hambden* frequently as concern'd in theſe Matters.

Sign'd at Edingburgh *Caſtle, the* 8th. *of* September, 1684. *and renewed the* 18th. *of the ſame Month.*

William Carſtares.

PERTH. CANCELL. I.P.D.
Edinburgh

Edinburgh *Caſtle* September 18. 1684.

MR. *William Carſtares* being again examin'd, adheres to his former Depoſition, in all the parts of it, and Depones he knows of no Correſpondence betwixt *Scotland* and *England*, except by *Martin* before-nam'd: For thoſe Gentlemen to whom he was ſent, were left to follow their own Methods. *Veatch*, as the Deponent remembers, ſtayed ſometimes at *Nicholſon*, Stabler's Houſe at *London-Wall*; ſometimes with one Widow *Hardcaſtle* in *Morefields*. The Deponent did Communicate the Deſign on Foot to Doctor *Owen*, Mr. *Griffil*, and Mr. *Meed* at *Stepney*, who all concurred in the promoting of it, and were deſirous it ſhould take effect; and to one Mr. *Freth* in the Temple, Councellor at Law, who ſaid he would ſee what he could do in reference to the Money, but there having gone a Report, that there was no Money to be rais'd, he did nothing in it, nor does the Deponent think him any more concern'd in the Affair, *Nelthrop* frequently ſpoke to the Deponent of the Money to be ſent to *Argile*, whether it was got or not, but the Deponent uſed no freedom with him in the Affair. *Goodenough* did inſinuate once, that the Lords were not inclin'd to the thing, and that before they would ſee what they could do in the City. The Deponent ſaw Mr. *Ferguſon*, and Mr. *Rumſay*, lurking after the Plot broke out, before the Proclamation, having gone to *Ferguſon*, in the back of *Biſhop-gate-ſtreet*, at ſome new Building, whether he was directed by *Jerviſwood*, who was deſirous to know how things went, *Rumſay* was not of the Deponent his Acquaintance before, but they knew as little of the matter as the Deponent. This is what the Deponent remembers, and if any thing come to his Memory, he is to deliver it in betwixt, and the firſt of *October*: And this is the truth, as he ſhall Anſwer to God.

William Carſtares.

PERTH CANCELL. *I. P. D*

At Edinburgh, *the* 22*d. of* December, 1684.

THeſe fore-going Pages, ſubſcrib'd by Mr. *William Carſtares* Deponent, and by the Lord Chancellor, where acknowledged on Oath by the ſaid Mr. *William Carſtares*, to be his true Depoſitions, and that the Subſcriptions were his, in preſence of us Underſcribers.

William Carſtares.

PERTH CANCELLARIUS.

David Falconer.
George Mekenzie.

QUENSBERRY.
ATHOL.

An

Copy of the Lord Ruſſel's *Examination in the* Tower.

My Lord Ruſſel *Asked,*

WHether he knows of any Conſultations tending towards an Inſurrection, or to ſurprize His Majeſties Guards at any time, and by any perſons, and by whom?

Whether he hath ever been at Mr. *Shepards* Houſe, and how often, and when laſt?

Whether any Lords were in company, and who?

Whether at any time the Duke of *Monmouth*, Lord *Grey*, Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, Colonel *Romzey*, Mr. *Ferguſon*, or any of them were there, and how many, and which of them?

Whether there was any diſcourſe concerning a Riſing in the Weſt, or any parts of the Weſt, or at *Taunton*, and what the Diſcourſe was, and by whom?

Whether there was any diſcourſe concerning the ſurprizing the Kings Guards at any time?

Whether the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Lord *Grey*, and Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* did undertake to view the Guards to ſee if it might be done, and in what poſture they were?

Whether they gave any account that they had viewed the Guards, and how they found them?

What did Mr. *Ferguſon* ſay at any of thoſe Meetings, and by whom was he directed?

Whether he knows of any Deſign for a Riſing in *Scotland*? Whether he hath been at any Conſultations for that end, with any perſons, Scotchmen or others, and with whom? What Monies the Scotch demanded at firſt, and whether they did not conſent to take Ten thouſand pounds, and how was that or any part of that to be raiſed, and by whom?

My Lord Ruſſel's *Anſwer to the preceding Interrogatories.*

MY Lord knows of no Conſultation tending to any Inſurrection.

His Lordſhip knows nothing of any Conſultation or Deſign to ſurprize his Majeſties Guards at any time.

His Lordſhip doth acknowledge to have been frequently (*divers times*) at Mr. *Shepard*'s Houſe.

His Lordſhip cannot preciſely ſet down the time that he was there laſt.

To the two Articles relating to the Lords that were in company at Mr. *Shepards*, his Lordſhip anſwers that he went thither with the Duke of *Monmouth*; but as to the reſt of the perſons then preſent, his Lordſhip conceives that he ought not to anſwer, becauſe there were ill Conſtructions made of that Meeting, nor cannot poſitively remember.

His Lordſhip anſwers,

There was no diſcourſe as he remembers concerning any Riſing in the Weſt, or any parts of the Weſt, or at *Taunton*, nor particularly of Mr.

John Trenchards Undertaking, nor any diſcourſe about Mr. *John Trenchard* as he remembers.

His Lordſhip anſwers there was no Diſcourſe at Mr. *Shepards* about ſurprizing the Guards, nor of the Duke of *Monmouth*'s, my Lord *Grey*'s, nor of Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*'s Undertaking to view the Guards; nor was there any account there given by the ſaid perſons of their having viewed the Guards, nor how they found them.

Nor was there any ſuch Undertaking elſewhere to his knowledge.

To the queſtion what Mr. *Ferguſon* did ſay at any of thoſe Meetings, his Lordſhip anſwers that he cannot tell what Mr. *Ferguſon* did ſay there, nor doth he own that Mr. *Ferguſon* was there.

His Lordſhip knows of no Deſign for a Riſing in *Scotland*, nor knows any thing of the whole Article relating to *Scotland*, nor any part of it.

His Lordſhip hath heard general diſcourſes of many diſtreſſed people, Miniſters and others of the Scottiſh Nation that were fled and that it were great Charity to relieve them.

This Examination was taken the 28th day of *June*, 1683.
before Us

L. Jenkins,
J. Ernle,
R. Sawyer,
H. Finch.

Notes

Notes of ſome things Confeſſed before His Majeſty and the Council, taken out of the Books of Minutes.

John Rouſe confeſt that Money was Collected in the City at the intimation or deſire of ſome Parliament Men, for the Kings Evidence, that receiving that Money for that purpoſe from ſome of them he ſent it to thoſe Perſons for whom it was deſign'd.

Bourn Confeſſes, That Sir *Thomas Armſtrong* uſed to come every day to *Ferguſon* when he lay at his Houſe, that he has ſeen him ſince the diſcovery when *Armſtrong* urged him to get ſome friends together to make a puſh and that it was better to dye with Swords in their hands.

Walcot Confeſſes, That *Aaron Smith* was ſent into *Scotland* by thoſe Gentlemen that tranſacted the matter.

Bourn ſays, That *Ferguſon* Lodged at his Fathers Houſe a Month or ſix Weeks, That he left no Papers in his Houſe and uſed to ſay he would never be hanged for Papers.

Shepard ſays, *Bayly* told him *Charlton* had undertaken to raiſe the whole 10000 *l.*

Romzey ſays, The Lord *Ruſſel* was about going away from *Shepard's* when he arrived there, and that his Lordſhip ſaid *Trenchard* was a a Coward, and that he would go down himſelf and begin the Riſing.

Charlton confeſſes, He had paid *Otes* 80 *l. per* quarter for his ſubſiſtance of which he had but 10. *l.* of my Lord *Shaftsbury*, and was himſelf the reſt out of Purſe but that he was told a Parliament would reimburſe him.

Shepheard ſays, That *Ferguſon* and *Bayly* told him that *Charlton* would procure the 10000 *l.* himſelf, and raiſe it upon a Mortgage.

Charlton further ſays, He paid *Otes* about 400 *l.* in all.

The Information of John Rouſe *taken at his deſire in* Newgate *the 19th of* July, 1683.

THe Informant ſaith, That the deſign of the Rebellion and ſeizing the King was begun by the Earl of *Shaftsbury* at his Houſe in *Alderſgate-ſtreet*, before the meeting of the Parliament at *Oxford*, where the Duke of *Monmouth*, Sir *Thomas Armſtrong*, Lord *Ruſſel*, Lord *Grey*, Major *Manly* a Brewer at *Whitechappel*, and others whom he ſaw there and as he was told likewiſe by his Servants, frequently met there; the foundation of all the Scurrilous Libels was laid, particularly that of the *Raree-ſhew*.

That all thoſe Clubs at *Mile-end-green*, the *Sun* behind the *Exchange*, at *Ruſſel*'s in *Iron-Monger-lane*, and at the *Salutation* in *Lumbard-ſtreet*, were to carry on that Deſign, he cannot recollect all names, but declares that he knows all thoſe of Note that were at thoſe Clubs were thoroughly acquainted with the Deſign. Theſe Clubs were divided into three Factions, by reaſon of which diviſion the Informant ſaith the Deſign went on ſo ſlow as it did, and at laſt it fell between the Duke of *Monmouth*, and a Common-wealth; and the greater number carried it for the Duke of *Monmouth*, becauſe it was found upon his going into the Weſt, *Chicheſter* and *Cheſhire*, the vogue of the people went for him. Thoſe that were for a Common-wealth were abſolutely reſolved to have nothing to do with the Race of the *Stuart's*; but they pitcht upon *Richard Cromwel*, whom this Informant knows to be in *England*. The longeſt day that was appointed for execution of this was at *Midſummer-day* laſt, when the people ſhould be at *Guild-hall* choſing Sheriffs.

Five hundred Horſe were promiſed to be ſent in from the Country, who were to ſeize the Guards.

The pretence of the Conſpirators was to ſecure His Majeſty from being killed by the Papiſts, that if he would not comply with His Parliament at *Oxford*, then to ſet up the Duke of *Monmoth*. That this was long deſign'd likewiſe before the meeting at *Oxford*.

The Informant ſaith, That it was reſolved by the Conſpirators, that when they ſhould have accompliſht their Deſign, and that the Tower and City of *London* was ſeized, then they were to go to *Whitehal* and demand their Priviledges, and Freedoms, with their Swords in their hands.

He hath been preſent at many of theſe Clubs where theſe Deſigns have been conſulted of, and all the perſons of any note, Commons as well as Lords were conſenting to the Conſpiracy; he ſaith he can prove it by many Witneſſes.

He ſaith my Lord *Shaftsbury* and *Otes* were the Principal movers in all this buſineſs.

A particular Account of the Situation of the Rye-Houſe.

THe *Rye-Houſe* in *Hartfordſhire*, about eighteen Miles from *London*, is ſo called from the *Rye* a Meadow near it. Juſt under it there is a By-road from *Biſhops-Strafford* to *Hoddeſden*, which was conſtantly uſed by the King when he went to or from *Newmarket*; the great Road winding much about on the Right-hand by *Stanſted*. The Houſe is an old ſtrong Building and ſtands alone, encompaſs'd with a Mote, and towards the Garden has high Walls, ſo that Twenty Men might eaſily defend it for ſome time againſt Five hundred. From a high Tower in the Houſe all that go or come may be ſeen both ways for near a Miles diſtance. As you come from *Newmarket* towards *London*, when you are near the Houſe, you paſs the Meadow over a narrow Cauſ-way, at the end of which is a Toll-gate, which having Entred you go through a Yard, and a little Field, and at the end of that through another Gate, you paſs into a narrow Lane, where two Coaches at that time could not go a-breaſt. This narrow paſſage had on the left hand a thick Hedge and a Ditch, on the right a long Range of Building uſed for Corn-Chambers and Stables with ſeveral doors and windows looking into the Road, and before it a Pale, which then made the paſſage ſo narrow, but is ſince removed. When you are paſt this long Building, you go by the Mote and the Garden Wall, that is very ſtrong, and has divers holes in it, through which a great many Men might ſhoot. Along by the Mote and Wall the Road continues to the *Ware-River* which runs about Twenty or Thirty yards from the Mote, and is to be paſt by a Bridge. A ſmall diſtance from thence another Bridge is to be paſt over the *New-River*. In both which Paſſes a few Men may oppoſe great Numbers. In the outer Court-yard, which is behind the long Building, a conſiderable Body of Horſe and Foot might be drawn up unperceived from the Road; whence they might eaſily iſſue out at the ſame time into each end of the narrow Lane, which was alſo to be ſtopt up by overturning a Cart.

Notes of what paſs'd between the late KING, His Royal Highneſs the Duke of YORK, and the Duke of MONMOUTH, at the time of his firſt Rendring himſelf:

Taken in Writing at that time by his Royal Highneſs.

November the 25th. 1683.

YEſterday the Duke of *Monmouth* came and Surrendred himſelf to Mr. Secretary *Jenkins*, and deſired to ſpeak alone with the King and Duke, which was granted him. He firſt threw himſelf at his Majeſties Feet, acknowledging his guilt, and the ſhare he had in the Conſpiracy, and asked his Pardon, then confeſt himſelf faulty to the Duke, asked his Pardon alſo, aſſured him if he ſhould ſurvive his Majeſty, that he would pay him all the Duty that became a Loyal Subject, and be the firſt ſhould draw his Sword for him, ſhould there be occaſion. He then deſired his Majeſty would not oblige him to be a Witneſs, and then gave an account of the whole Conſpiracy, naming all thoſe concerned in it, which were more than thoſe had already been mentioned by the ſeveral Witneſſes. He denyed any knowledge of the Aſſaſſination. When he had made an end of his Confeſſion, his Majeſty Ordered him to be put into the Cuſtody of a Serjeant at Arms. This day admitted him to his Preſence, and Ordered a Stop to be put to the Outlawry, and Promis'd him his Pardon. He further added that Dr. *Owen*, *Mead*, *Griffin*, and all the Conſiderable Nonconformiſts Miniſters knew of the Conſpiracy.

The

The Duke of Monmouth's *First Letter to the* KING, *mentioned, P.* 151 *of the foregoing Account.*

IF I could have Writ to Your Majeſty ſooner, with any ſafety to my ſelf, I would have done it, to have told you, That there is nothing under Heaven has ſtruck me ſo to the Heart, as to be put into a Proclamation for an Intention of Murdring of You, Sir, and the Duke. I do call God Almighty to Witneſs, and I wiſh I may Die this Moment I am Writing if ever it Entred into my Head, or ever ſaid the leaſt thing to any body that could make them think I could wiſh ſuch a Thing; I am ſure there cannot be ſuch Villains upon Earth to ſay I ever did. But I am ſo Innocent to this point, that I will ſay no more of it, for I know God Almighty is Juſt, and I do not doubt but he will put it into Your Heart that I am clear of this Moſt Horrid and Baſe Accuſation. But Sir, the Chief intent of this Letter is to beg Pardon both of You, Sir, and the Duke, for the many things I have done that have made you both angry with me: But more eſpecially of the Duke, tho I might have ſome Juſtification for my ſelf that many people made me believe he intended to deſtroy me; for to You, Sir, I do proteſt before God Almighty, and I wiſh I may never proſper more that all I have done was only to ſave you, as I ſhall convince Your Majeſty if ever I am ſo happy as to ſpeak to You, and I hope You will let me do it, before it be long, for I have that to ſay to You, Sir, that will for ever I hope ſettle You quiet in your Kingdom, and the Duke after You, whom I intend to ſerve to the uttermoſt of my Power, and, Sir, to convince him that I will do ſo, if Your Majeſty will give me Your Pardon, I will deliver my ſelf up into his Hands, that the Duke may bring me to You; beſides, Sir, I ſhould be glad to have him by when I ſpeak to You, but no body elſe, and by this kindneſs of the Dukes, if ever I ſhould do

any

any thing afterwards againſt him, I muſt be thought the ungratefulleſt Man living. What good can it do You, Sir, to take Your own Childs Life away that only Erred and ventured his Life to ſave Yours? And beſides, Sir, I am ſure I can be Serviceable to you, and if I may ſay ſo, make the Reſt of Your Life happy, or at leaſt Contribute a great deal towards it. You may believe me Sir, for I do not tell You this out of Fear, but becauſe I do think my ſelf ſure of it. I do beg of You, Sir, if You have any thoughts of Mercy of me, that You will let me know it ſoon, for the ſooner I ſpeak to you the better. And now Sir, I do Swear to you, that from this time, I never will diſpleaſe you in any thing, but the whole Study of my Life ſhall be to ſhew how truly Penitent I am for having done it, and how well I will deſerve the Life you give me. And for the Duke that he may have a more firm confidence of the ſervice I intend to do him, I do here declare to your Majeſty, that I will never ask to ſee your Face more, if ever I do any thing againſt him, which is the greateſt Curſe I can lay upon my ſelf,

Monmouth.

The

The Duke of Monmouth's *Second Letter to the* KING, *mentioned* P. 152 *of the foregoing Account.*

YOU muſt allow me, *SIR*, ſtill to importune You not without hopes of prevailing at laſt upon Your Generoſity, ſo as it may get the better of Your Anger to me. I am half diſtracted, *SIR*, with the Thoughts of having offended You; and the Torment it gives me is perhaps greater than Your forgiving Nature would know how to inflict upon the moſt Criminal Offenders: The Character I lie under is too heavy for me to bear; even Death it ſelf would be a relief to me, could I have it without the Aggravation of leaving the World under Your Diſpleaſure: I muſt therefore throw my ſelf upon Your Compaſſion, which being a Virtue ſo agreeable to Your Nature, I hope Your Child, *SIR*, will not be an unfortunate Inſtance of Your denying it, when 'tis implored. I confeſs, *SIR*, I have been in fault, miſlead, and inſenſibly engaged in Things of which the Conſequence was not enough underſtood by me: Yet I can ſay I never had a Criminal Thought towards Your Majeſty, not pretending by that to inſiſt upon an abſolute Juſtification of my ſelf. Your Majeſty will conſider, that whilſt I was under the Apprehenſions of great Anger and Violence againſt me, it might eaſily corrupt my Judgment, and by ſeeing Things in a wrong Light, betray me into very fatal Miſtakes: But now that I have had time to recollect my ſelf, every thing like a Fault towards Your Majeſty appeareth to me in ſuch a reproaching terrifying Shape, that I have a remorſe for it, which could it be ſeen, I aſſure my ſelf it would move Your Compaſſion to me. I humbly beg, *SIR*, to be admitted to Your Feet, and to be diſpoſed of as You direct, not only now, but for the remainder of my Life: And though my Reſignation is too full to admit any Reſerve, Your Majeſty will permit me to offer to You, Whether You will let paſs any thing as a Penalty upon me, which may lay a Stain upon my Innocent Children? Whe-

ther You will make me undergo the Ignominy of a Tryal, before You give me Your Pardon? And of what Uſe or Satisfaction it can be to You to forgive me, and yet give me the cruel Puniſhment of hearing my ſelf Arraigned for Treaſon againſt ſuch a King, and ſuch a Father? And whether my being carried to the *Tower* in caſe You be pleaſed to excuſe my Tryal, can have any Effect but an unneceſſary Mortification of One, who God knoweth is already enough afflicted, and ſome kind of blemiſh too, to my Family, as well as an uſeleſs Limitation of Your Majeſties Mercy? *SIR*, I lay theſe Things before You in the moſt ſubmitting manner that is poſſible, with an entire Reſignation to what You ſhall determine. Neither do I imagine to receive Your Pardon any otherwiſe than by the Interceſſion of the Duke, whom I acknowledge to have offended, and am prepared to ſubmit my ſelf in the humbleſt manner; and therefore beg Your Majeſty would direct how I am to apply my ſelf to Him; and I ſhall do it, not as an outward Form, but with all the Sincerity in the World. If what I have ſaid can move You to forget my paſt Faults, it will be a Grace I ſhall endeavour to deſerve by all the Actions of my Life: And I am ſo ſenſible how ill a Guide my own Will hath been to me, that I am reſolved for the future to put it entirely into Your Majeſties Hands, that I may by that means never commit a Fault but for want of Your Directions or Your Commands. Dear *SIR*, be pleaſed to revive by a kind Anſwer the moſt miſerable diſconſolate Creature now living,

Monmouth.

The Copy of a Letter to the KING, Signed by the Duke of Monmouth, *mentioned P. 155 of the foregoing Account:*

I Have heard of ſome Reports of me, as if I ſhould have leſſen'd the late Plot, and gone about to diſcredit the Evidence given againſt thoſe, who have died by Juſtice. Your Majeſty and the Duke know how Ingenuouſly I have own'd the late Conſpiracy, and tho' I was not conſcious of any Deſign againſt Your Majeſties Life, yet I lament the having had ſo great a ſhare in the other part of the ſaid Conſpiracy. Sir, I have taken the Liberty to put this in Writing for my own Vindication, and I beſeech you to look forward, and endeavour to forget the Faults you have forgiven me: I will take Care never to Commit any more againſt You, or come within the danger of being again miſlead from my Duty, but make it the buſineſs of my Life to deſerve the Pardon Your Majeſty hath granted to Your Dutiful

Monmouth.

FINIS.